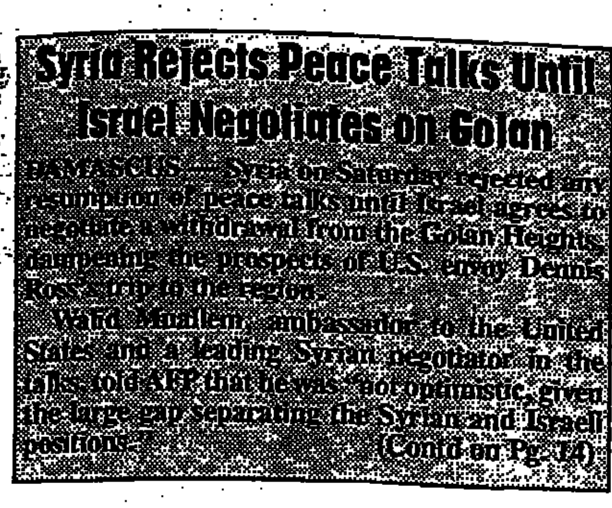

Syria Rejects Peace Talks Until Israel Negotiates on Golan

DAMASCUS — Syria on Saturday rejected any resumption of peace talks until Israel agrees to negotiate a withdrawal from the Golan Heights, dampening the prospects of U.S. envoy Dennis Ross's trip to the region.

Walid Muallem, ambassador to the United States and a leading Syrian negotiator in the talks, told AFP that he was "not optimistic, given the large gap separating the Syrian and Israeli positions." (Contd on Pg. 14)



16 PAGES; PRICE 200 RIALS

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Clashes Reported as Battle Between Afghan Rivals Looms

ISLAMABAD — Fresh skirmishes between Afghan government forces and Taleban milita raged Saturday as a crucial battle looms at the the government stronghold of Sarobi east of Kabul, Afghan sources said.

Sarobi, 75 kilometers (47 miles) east of Kabul, was bombed by Taleban jets Friday as the militia seized Laghman Province after earlier capturing eastern Nangarhar's provincial capital Jalalabad on Wednesday. (Contd on Pg. 14)

A Council to Be Formed to Follow Agreements With Africa

TEHRAN — Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati announced here Friday night that a council will soon



be formed to follow up Iran's policies towards the African continent as well as the agreements reached during the recent visit of the high-ranking Iranian delegation to six African countries.

The council will be set up immediately after return of President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani to Iran with the objective of following up the accords reached between the Islamic Republic of Iran and six African countries, he told IRNA adding that the council secretariat will be at the Foreign Ministry.

Referring to the U.S. discontent with the agreements inked during President Rafsanjani's African tour, Velayati who arrived here Friday night noted that the U.S. will try to make obstacles on the way of implementation of the accords.

Velayati cut his trip by one day to attend the Izmir ministerial meeting of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO).

Despite U.S. opposition to President Rafsanjani's visit to Africa, Velayati said, the president was accorded an enthusiastic welcome in the state visits and his visit to South Africa was extended one more day at the request of President Mandela.

President Mandela will visit Iran in the near future to review the implementation of the agreements signed by the two countries, he said, adding the South African minister of industries will also visit Iran in October.

(Contd on Pg.14)

MAR'ASHI:

President Reliable Aide to Leader, Inspiration to Nation

By Our Correspondent

HARARE, Zimbabwe — There is a broad consensus among the Iranian people, particularly the different political groups, to make optimum use of the competence and efficiency of President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani in the presidential position for the third term, Kerman Representative in the Majlis (Iranian Parliament), Hussein Mar'ashi, told the *Tehran Times*.

Those who hold a different view in this regard are either unwilling to make amendments to the Constitution of the Islamic Republic or are out to promote their own factional interests or personal attitudes, he added.

Although certain groups try to portray the proposal as a factional and not a national move, those people and political groups giving priority to national interests admit that the country should use the services of such a veteran revolutionary character in the presidential post, the MP stressed. He added that those individuals expressing disagreement with the proposal, whether they belong to the right or left wing, are in the minority even within their own political groups.

At this sensitive juncture that the country is launching a full-scale construction drive and at a time when economic sanctions have been imposed on Iran by the U.S., the country is more than ever in urgent need of the valuable services of President Rafsanjani, who has done his best during over 30 years of earnest political activities to promote the Islamic Revolution, he added.

President Rafsanjani is a great inspiration to the nation and a reliable aide to the Leader of the Islamic Revolution, Ayatollah Seyed Ali Khamenei, he said.

In order to materialize people's aspiration there is no need to change or amend the Constitu- (Contd on Pg.14)

Pope Shenuda Calls For United Arab Stand on Bait-ul-Moqaddas

CAIRO — The head of the Coptic Christian Church has called on Arab countries to forge a united position on Bait-ul-Moqaddas, saying he feared that the holy city had already fallen "part and parcel" to Israeli interests.

"I fear that by delaying negotiations on Jerusalem to a final phase, Israel will be able to eliminate all Arab presence (in Jerusalem)," Pope Shenuda III said in an interview published by the Arab daily *Al-Hayat* on Saturday.

Pope Shenuda said Israel could then carry out a referendum involving a majority of Jews and a tiny minority of Arabs "whose results will be in Israel's interest."

"Every day that goes by is not in the interest of the Arabs. and I fear that Jerusalem has been confiscated part and parcel" by Israel, he said.

"Israel depends on Arab weakness and (Israeli Prime (Contd on Pg.14)

Rafsanjani Winds Up Six-Nation African Visit



Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN — President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani wound up his six-nation African visit aimed at strengthening economic ties. here yesterday.

President Rafsanjani on Saturday expressed concern about possible resumption of U.S. attacks on Iraq and said though there may not be a lengthy war, another number of Iraqi people will fall victims to the the wrong policies of the U.S. and Iraq.

Speaking at a press conference, President Rafsanjani said it seems that establishment of a lasting peace in the Middle East would be inconceivable for the U.S. unless the plight of four million Palestinian refugees and (Contd on Pg.14)

Bosnian Vote Goes Ahead, Marred by Snarlups, Shooting

MOHAMMADI HOPEFUL OF FREE ELECTIONS

Compiled From Dispatches

SARAJEVO — Thousands of Bosnians cast their ballots in landmark post-war elections Saturday but the vote, intended to reunite the divided republic, was marred by traffic snarlups and a shooting.

Some 2.9 million Bosnians are entitled to vote in the elections called just nine months after the Dayton accords brought an uneasy peace to the Balkans republic which has resolved few of its deep-seated political problems.

In total, some 4,400 voting stations have been set up across the country for the vote. Thou- (Contd on Pg.14)



TUZLA, Bosnia-Herzegovina (Sept. 13): A Bosnian woman casts her eyes down a list of candidates for the general elections on a wall also featuring posters of the Muslim nationalist party Bosanska Stranka, in center Tuzla, following yesterday's final campaigns ahead of the 24 hour-ban on rallies before the polling stations open for voters September 14.

(AFP PHOTO)

Next President Should Abide by Freedoms Enshrined in Constitution

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN — A representative of Tehran constituency in Majlis (Iranian Parliament) Majid Ansari, in an interview with the *Tehran Times* here yesterday, stressed that the next Iranian president should strictly adhere to the people's basic rights and freedoms that are provided for in the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Speaking on the characteristics of the future president, he said that the next head of state should not belong to a political faction which has been holding monopolistic attitudes toward political activities and government positions.

"If the future president is known for his being partial towards a specific political group and bolstering its policies and interests, he is not eligible to take presidential office because he will not be able to further the interests of the Iranian nation as a whole. Thus, his taking office would definitely undermine the national unity and solidarity," Ansari noted.

(Contd on Pg.14)

Arab FMs Pledge Support for Iraqi Sovereignty, Criticize U.S.

CAIRO — Arab foreign ministers on Saturday defended Iraq's sovereignty and accused the United States and Turkey of increasing tension in the region.

"They discussed the situation in northern Iraq and declared their refusal of any step that would undermine the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Iraqi territory," a league official said.

"The foreign ministers voiced concern over an increase in tension (Contd on Pg.14)



CAIRO, Egypt (Sept. 13): General view of the Arab foreign ministers meeting in Cairo chaired by Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Mussa (3R) and attended by 12 Arab foreign ministers to discuss the future of the stalled Middle East peace process and the American attack on northern Iraq, although the subject is not officially on the agenda.

(AFP PHOTO)

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In the Name of Allah

The chiefs of his people said: Most surely we see you in clear error.

(HOLY QORAN)(7:60)

OPINION

ECO in Need of Practical Measures Not Mere Rhetoric

The foreign ministers from the member states of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) met on Saturday in Izmir to formally sign the revised constitution of the organization.

The regional cooperation has been a lure for almost all countries in different parts of the world in the post-World War II era. For instance, the ASEAN in Southeast Asia, RCD in West Asia, and SAARC in South Asia came into existence in the postwar period.

Some of those organizations were set up with the sole aim of boosting regional cooperation. But the RCD was indeed the offshoot of CENTO, a military pact. This is why the RCD fell into oblivion once CENTO was dissolved. It is worth noting that CENTO was established to serve the U.S. policy of containing Communism in West Asia, while CEATO, ANZUS and NATO were set up to contain Communism in Southeast Asia, the Pacific and Europe.

Since the establishment of the RCD was politically motivated, the organization did not achieve much success during its short life span, mainly serving the U.S. interests.

With the collapse of the bipolar world order, regional cooperation was given a new impetus in almost all quarters of the world. In fact a strong feeling for regional cooperation as a substitute for dependence on the big powers emerged in various parts of the world.

During 1980s, the world political arena having undergone drastic changes, the leaders of Iran, Turkey and Pakistan, the founder members of the RCD, decided to restructure the organization giving it a new orientation so that it would serve the interests of its member states.

The disintegration of the former Soviet Union made the newly independent republics realize the necessity of joining forces with Iran, Pakistan and Turkey to boost regional cooperation.

Consequently, the ECO was expanded in 1992, turning into a 10-member organization. At their yesterday's gathering in Izmir, the ECO members formally endorsed the legal status and the revised version of the Izmir accord, which is the organization's mainstay for economic cooperation among its members.

No doubt the new world situation calls for wider cooperation among the ECO member states and between the ECO and other regional organizations. The ECO members should bear in mind that the developed countries are not willing to see new economic competitors emerge in world trade arena. Thus, arrangements such as the WTO have been devised to check the progress of the developing countries.

The dynamic cooperation among the regional countries may prove a very effective alternative to joining the WTO. It is time the ECO came out of hibernation and laid the foundation for closer cooperation among its members through providing for lifting the tariffs, exempting goods from import taxes, and launching bilateral and multilateral ventures among the member states. It is essential that the organization also provide for most favored status and preferential trade terms among the member states.

Ambassador to Rabat Holds Talks With Moroccan Ministers

PARIS — Iran's Ambassador to Morocco Jafar Shamsian in separate meetings Friday in Rabat with two Moroccan officials reviewed further expansion of relations between the two countries.

The Moroccan Minister of Religious Endowments *(awqaf)* and Islamic Affairs Abd al-Kacbir ...daoui told the Iranian diplomat that he was satisfied with the growing Tehran-Rabat relations.

In another meeting with Minister of State for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, Fassi, the Iranian ambassador discussed the latest regional and international developments including the critical situation of Kurds in northern Iraq.

Fassi is to visit Tehran in the near future at the invitation of Deputy Foreign Minister for Arab and African Affairs Hossein Sheikholeslam. (IRNA)

Int'l Silence on Atrocities in Northern Iraq Denounced

QOM — Friday prayer leader of this holy city, Ayatollah Ali Meshkini, denounced the attacks on the Kurds of northeastern Iraq by Iraqi government forces and called for an end to such crimes.

The ayatollah in his sermons also deplored the reluctance of international circles to prevent the atrocities against the defenseless and oppressed Kurdish Muslims of northern Iraq.

Referring to President Rafsanjani's 6-nation African tour,



Ayatollah Meshkini regretted that due to the plundering policies of the colonialists the people of the African Continent despite their rich resources and potentials, are struggling in a state of poverty.

He said that the Islamic Republic of Iran is ready to extend its hand of brotherly cooperation to the African people and help them take the big stride towards development and real independence. (IRNA)

Iran's Embassy Appeals for Int'l Humanitarian Aid for Kurdish Refugees

ATHENS — The Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran here Friday appealed to Greece and international charity organizations as well as individuals for help in alleviating the sufferings of thousands of Iraqi Kurdish refugees.

An embassy press release estimated that more than 200,000 displaced Iraqi Kurds have gathered at Iranian borders, from where some 40,000 have been so far allowed to enter Iranian territory on humanitarian grounds. The Iraqis are entering by thousands each day, it added.

"In view of the continued presence in Iran of Iraqi and Afghan refugees (whose present number is about 2 million), the resources of the Islamic Republic of Iran to play host to the newcomers is extremely limited.

"Thus there is a dire need for humanitarian aid, especially in the form of medicine, clothing and foodstuff for the innocent displaced Kurdish refugees.

"The Islamic Republic of Iran, therefore, appeals to all charity organizations, and other Greek and international companies as well as the individuals for cash and kind to help alleviate the suffering of the Kurdish refugees," said the press release. (IRNA)

President Calls On Students Abroad to Safeguard Islamic Values

BONN — Iran's President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani in a message to the 31st meeting of members of the Association of Muslim Students in Europe, called for preservation of Islamic values.

The message also called on all members of the association to make efforts to obtain knowledge and appropriate tools to help Iran get access to development and progress.

Paving the ground for talented students to show their talents, reinforcing the link of students residing abroad with their home country and with their revolutionary fellow countrymen and encouraging them to return to Iran are the main goals behind forming such Islamic student groupings abroad, the message said.

"Today," the president said, "We are witnessing commissioning of thousands of development projects, promtoion of culture and education, relatively stable



economy, as well as expansion of sciences, knowledge, freedom and democracy in our Islamic country."

It further stated that production of over six million tons of steel a year, extraction of 74 million tons of minerals, generation of 90 billion kw of electricity, laying of gas pipelines to 270 cities as well as establishment of refineries, development of new gas and oil fields, agricultural development, connection of Iran-Europe railways network to East Asia and so on, are examples of a national drive throughout Iran aimed at compensating its backwardness.

The president's message called on the Association of Muslim Students to refrain from fanning the flames of disputes or getting involved in political quarrels.

Today, the divine blessing bestowed upon Iran has become clear and the God's promise concerning the victory of the oppressed is about to be materialized, and this makes the responsibilities of the Muslim intellectuals heavier. (IRNA)

Kharrazi: Iran Will Support Reelection of Boutros-Ghali

TEHRAN — Iran's Permanent Representative to the UN, Kamal Kharrazi, said that Iran would support reelection of Boutros Boutros-Ghali for another term as UN secretary general.

In an interview with the Persian-language daily *Iran* printed Saturday, Kharrazi remarked the Islamic Republic favored the extension of Boutros-Ghali's tenure for another five years.

Turning to Iran's plan to have a role at the UN Security Council, the Iranian envoy noted that participation in this body was a tacit recognition and an acknowledgment of its legitimacy.

However, in view of the workings of the Security Council, particularly its exercise of the right of veto, Iran had not yet opted for membership in the council, Kharrazi pointed out.

As to the differing opinions of American officials regarding the anti-Iran stance of the U.S., the envoy remarked that such disagreements existed not only in various organizations but also among officials of independent bodies, such as the state or defense departments.

Pointing to the steps taken by Tehran to neutralize such policies, Kharrazi stated that various measures are being implemented, including the dissemination of accurate information about Iran.

He added that in line with this objective, Iran is currently making use of the internet to provide all pertinent data and information about the country, adding that arrangements are also underway for researchers and reporters to visit the Islamic Republic.

Moreover, the Iranian envoy stressed, a group of American citizens of Iranian origin have formed an organization that has expressed its protest against the d'Amato legislation to the American press.

He added, the protest of these Iranians is gaining momentum and this stance against U.S. sanctions on Iran has contributed to a great extent in bringing them closer.

As to the relationship between Iranians residing in the U.S. and the Iranian Mission, especially in the reconstruction era, Kharrazi said there was close contact between Iranian specialists and the mission.

Within the framework of the project called the 'transfer of knowledge through expatriate nationals' (TOKTEN), Iranian ministries have gained outstanding achievements that has resulted in the formation of the Iran's Scientific Association, he remarked.

Kharrazi pointed out that the association organizes specialized and scientific seminars in various fields and its members pay regular visits to Iran and even give lectures at local universities. (IRNA)

Iranian Relief Workers Providing Aid to Iraqi Refugees

BANEH, Kurdestan Province — Governor of Baneh Iraj Hassanzadeh here Friday announced that some 500 tents have been already set up at the border points of Chuman and Siranband in this western Iranian city for Iraqi Kurdish refugees.

A large number of Iraqi Kurds have fled their homes towards the Iranian border since the joint attack launched against forces of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) by the Iraqi Army and the Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP).

He added that some 5,000 blankets and 270,000 bread loafs have been distributed among the 25,000 Iraqi refugees in Iran's Kurdestan Province. In addition 6 medical teams have been stationed at the border points to render health services to the refugees.

Over 40,000 Iraqi Kurds fleeing persecution have taken refuge in the Iranian provinces of Kurdestan, Kermanshah and West Azarbaijan, while tens of thousands of others are being provided with necessary relief aid. (IRNA)

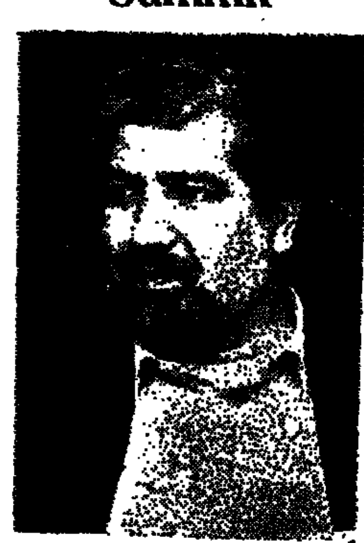
Imam Khomeini Relief Committee's Aid to Azeri Students

BAKU – The Baku branch of the Imam Khomeini Relief Committee has given a sum of 250 million manat (Azeri currency) to the needy Azeri school students.

In a ceremony at the committee's headquarters here on Friday Iranian Ambassador to Baku, Ali Reza Bigdeli said that Tehran will continue its aid to the needy Azeris under the present difficult conditions of the country.

He also expressed hope for further deepening of friendship between the two neighboring Muslim nations. (IRNA)

Golpaygani in Harare for Solar Summit



TEHRAN — Iran's Minister of Culture and Higher Education Mohammad Reza Hashemi Golpaygani left here Friday for Zimbabwe to take part in the solar summit in Harare.

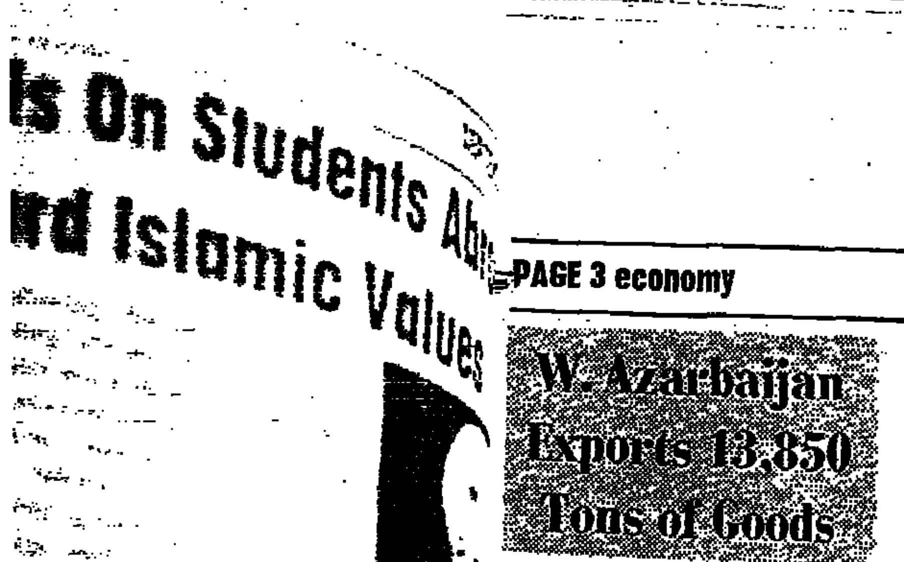
The heads and senior officials of member states of the World Commission for Solar Energy are to attend the summit September 16-17 to discuss solar as an alternative source of energy.

The meeting will review the ways of persuading member states to expand use of the renewable energy resources in the world so as to reduce hazards to the environment. (IRNA)

Rafsanjani Congratulates Nicaraguan President

TEHRAN — President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani in a message on Saturday to the Nicaraguan President Violeta de Chamorro felicitated her, the Nicaraguan government and the people on the occasion of that country's independence anniversary.

In his message the Iranian president expressed hope that Tehran-Managua relations will be broadened in all fields. (IRNA)



W. Azarbaijan Exports 13,850 Tons of Goods

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN - Some 13,850 tons of various non-oil commodities, worth over Rls.19 billion, were exported from West Azerbaijan province since the March 20, 1996, it was announced Saturday.

Director general of the provincial institute of standard and industrial research Nezameddin Barzegari added that canned fruits, foodstuff, sanitary products and medicine were among items exported to European countries, Central Asian republics and littoral states of the Persian Gulf.

Some 44,000 tons of non-oil products, worth Rls.36.7 million, were exported from this province last year.

Japan Reports Rise in Exports to UAE

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN - The United Arab Emirates (UAE) imported more Japanese products in the first half of 1996 but trade dropped in terms of U.S. dollars due to a slump in the yen, official figures showed Saturday.

Japan's exports to the UAE nominally declined by around 3.8 percent to 1.06 billion dollars in the first half of 1996 from about 1.10 billion dollars in the same period of 1995, the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) said, as quoted by AFP.

But in Japanese currency, the exports increased to 113.1 billion yens from 101 billion yens, JETRO said in a report from its UAE office.

"Japan's overall trade with the UAE in the first half of 1996 was bouyant and encouraging.

"However, due to the strengthening of the U.S. dollar against the yen, the trade value in terms of U.S. dollars had shown a nominal decrease," said JETRO Director Shigeru Kimura.

"The favorable exchange rate situation had benefited the UAE by way of having more imports from Japan for less cost. The current dollar-yen exchange rate appears to be helping a surge in trade between Japan and the UAE."

The report showed the UAE's exports to Japan nominally fell to 5.20 billion dollars from 5.26 billion dollars. But in real terms, they grew to 551.8 billion yens from around 482.9 billion yens.

Crude oil exports declined to around 4.18 billion dollars from 4.22 billion dollars in the same period despite higher oil prices. The report attributed this to a drop in supplies to 215.9 million barrels from 224.5 million barrels.

The UAE is the top oil exporter to Japan, supplying it with nearly 25 percent of its total crude imports.

The level is set to increase in the near future as Japan's crude consumption is growing steadily and Tokyo has large investments in the Emirates' energy sector.

The report showed the UAE's gas exports to Japan increased to 339.4 million dollars in the first half of 1996 from 312.7 million dollars in the first half of 1995.

Aluminium exports fell to $4.2 million dollars from 92 million dollars.

Japan's exports to the UAE, its top economic partner, include mainly cars, watches, electrical appliance, machinery and other manufactured products.

While car exports shrank in value to 188.3 million dollars from 221.3 million dollars, they surged in quantity to 17,960 units from 13,451.

Velayati Arrives in Izmir to Attend ECO's Meet

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN - Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati arrived in Izmir yesterday to attend the extraordinary meeting of the foreign ministers of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) member states.

Velayati was greeted at the Izmir Airport by senior officials of the Turkish Foreign Ministry and ECO, IRNA reported.

The ECO foreign ministers are to sign the revised version of the Izmir Accord and ten other documents concerning restructuring the ECO.

Velayati is expected to hold talks with Turkish president Suleyman Demirel, Prime Minister Necmettign Erbakan and Foreign Minister Tansu Ciller today.

The ECO foreign ministers are to sign document of ECO's legal status and the revised version of the Izmir Accord, which is the organization's main pillar for economic cooperation among its member states.

The rise in the number of ECO members to 10 countries in 1992, necessity of more consultations among its member states and also the need for widening relationship with other regional and international organizations have made its member states revise the Izmir Accord.

To this end, an ECO expert team held meetings four times in Turkey, Iran and Turkmenistan, last year, preparing the revised text of the Izmir Accord. The revised accord later on in April this year was endorsed by all 10 member states in the sixth session of ECO's council of ministers and fourth summit of ECO members in Ashkhabad.

In these documents, deepening cooperation and strengthening principles of the organization, particularly in four fields of commerce, transportation, communications and energy have been stressed.

The Islamic Republic of Iran, which hosts the ECO's secretariat, is one of the three founding members of the organization and because of having common border with five other members plays a vital role in achieveing ECO's objectives.

ECO's member states are, Iran, Pakistan, Turkey, Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan ard Turkmenistan.

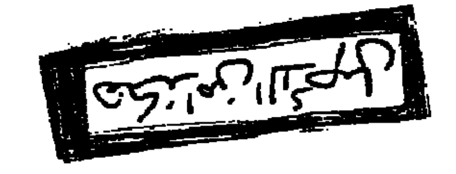
Russia to Produce Over 200 Tons of Gold in 2000

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN - Russia's annual gold production will reach some 216 tons by the turn of the century, a 46 percent increase from 1993, and the output of silver will jump by 100 percent, according to government official Viktor Gritsayev.

Gritsayev told a seminar of Russian and Canadian experts yesterday that the main objective is to overhaul the gold-mining industry and scale up the development of gold mines instead of placer deposits, an IRNA-ITAR-TASS dis-

(Contd on Pg.15)





CHILDREN'S PAGE

Zamzam, a Glorious Gift

The sweet, sparkling, spring of cool, clear water that by divine will be gushed forth from under the tiny and tender, but tenacious and persevering heels of infant Ismael, son of Hazrat Ibrahim (AS), lying on his back on the dry and hot sands of Mecca augured a miracle that has lasted over tens of centuries. This spring, now the well of Zamzam, visited by millions of devotees every year is located 18 meters from the imposing walls of Kaaba at the back of the Place of Ibrahim and underneath the vast courtyard of the most sacred of all mosques, Masjid al-Haram, in Mecca. Thousands drink of its pure, healing water and find cure for their maladies, as according to the tradition from Imam Jafar Sadiq (AS), "Zamzam is the cure for all illnesses".



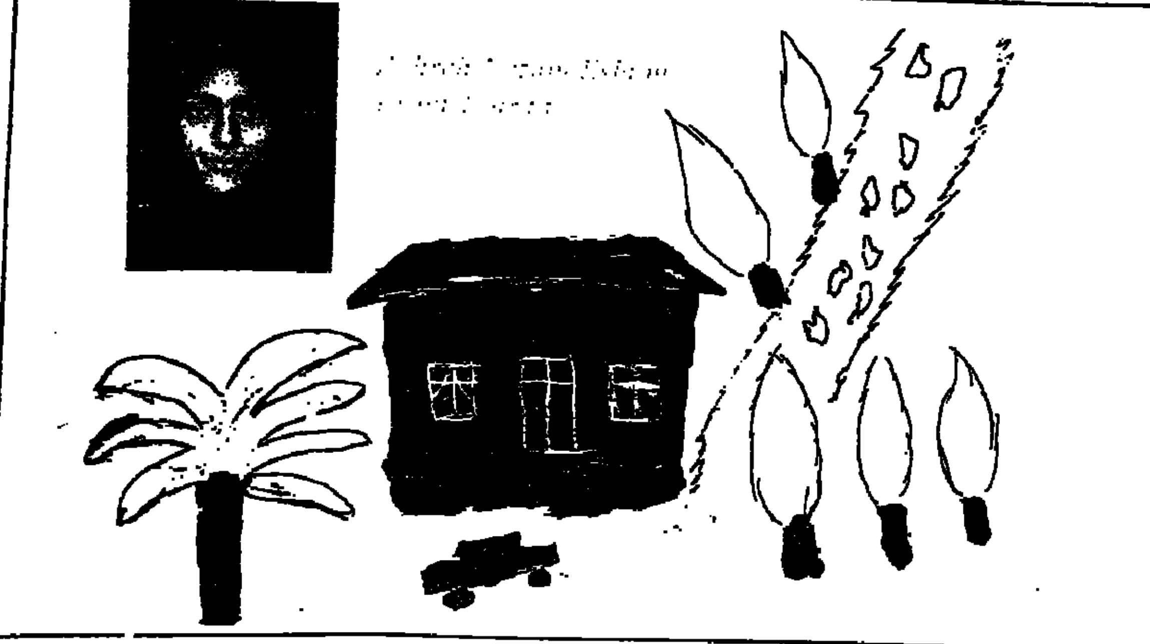
The miraculous occurrence of this spring, one of the most enduring of Allah's signs on earth, precedes the siting of the Holy Kaaba by about a decade. It was when Prophet Ibrahim (AS) brought his wife Hajar and their infant son Ismael to that dry hot desert and leaving them there in pursuance of Allah's command demonstrated his unshakable faith in his Allah's decision however severe the trial and unbearable the pain.

Hajar, the disconsolate mother of a thirsty, restless baby ran hither and thither in search for some water and failing to find any became wildly alarmed for the survival of her infant son. She ran up to the top of one of the flanking hills, scanned the endless desert for any sign of water, vegetation or life perchance. Failing, she dashed down the hill to her tiny son lying on the burning desert sand and now, with his life ebbing away slowly, crying feebly and pushing his tiny heels into the sand with increasing weakness but persistently. Choking back screams of utter helplessness, Hajar would run up the hill flanking the opposite side of the narrow, desolate valley. Seven times she repeated this agonized run up and down the two hills thus laying down one of the conventions of the annual Hajj ritual till dooms day. The beneficent God, who is ever ready to wreath His servants in lasting honors made the twin hills, Safa and Marva, among His sacred signs of earth.

After the seventh trip, once again torn by motherly love, Hajar returned to her now quietened son. Fearing the worse, she anxiously approached him and Lo! And behold! Clear, cool water was oozing out of the desert sands, where Ismael's heels had made small furrows, and was already collecting around the wondrous baby, cooling and soothing him. Dropping to the sand in thanksgiving and praising her ever merciful God, Hajar walled the water in by gathering together sand and gravel. The first pool of Zamzam had been born, a sign for generations to come. As long as this world lasts the waters of Zamzam shall flow to quench the bodily and spiritual thirst of millions upon millions of believers praising the glory of God of all creations and paying homage to the illustrious names of His servants whom He granted honor till eternity and beyond.

Flow then!... The sacred waters of Zamzam, splashing and gurgling, singing the glory of the Lord who always was and shall always be.

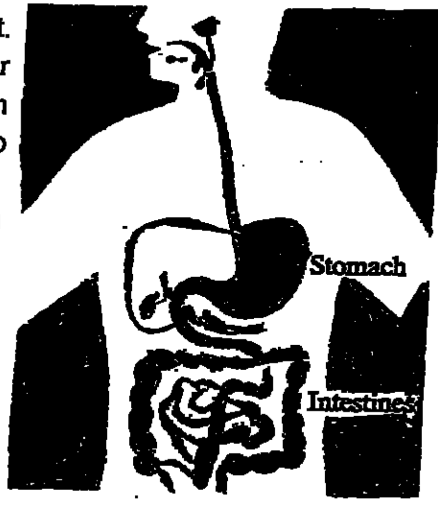
(Courtesy Zamzam magazine)



What Happens to the Food You Eat?

You digest (die-GEST) it. That means that your body breaks the food down into pieces small enough to enter your tiny cells.

You start breaking down the food in your mouth. Your teeth chew it into very small pieces. When you swallow the food, it moves down a tube to your stomach. From your stomach it passes through a long, thin coiled tube called the small intestine. All along the way it is broken down more and more by juices, digestive juices, that are made in your body. Finally, in your small intestine, most of the food becomes a liquid. The liquid goes into your blood and travels around your body. The parts of the food that you can't use soon go into a tube called the large intestine. Then they leave your body as waste.

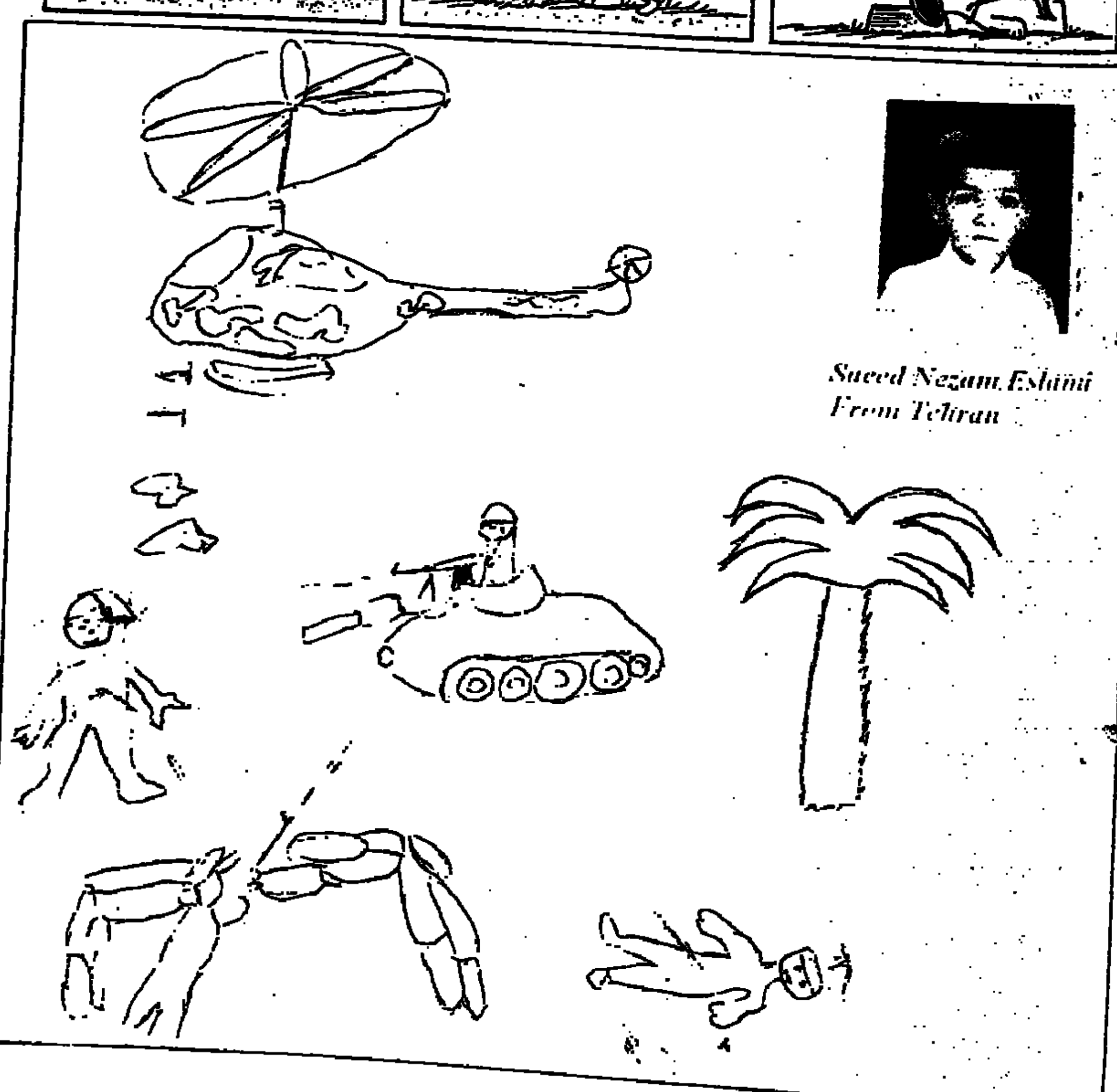


Why Does Your Mouth Water When You Smell Food?

Your mouth waters because the smell of food starts your digestion going. The "water" that comes into your mouth is not really water at all. It's a digestive juice called saliva (suh-LIE-vuh). There is always some saliva in your mouth. When you eat, a lot more of it flows in to start digesting your food.

But you don't have to put food into your mouth to start the saliva flowing. Just the smell of good food is enough. In fact, you can make your mouth water without even seeing or smelling food. Wait until you're very hungry and then think of your favorite food. Bet your mouth waters!





Saeed Nezam Eshini
From Tehran

Sacchi Accuses Italy's Press of 'Summary Justice'

ROME — Arrigo Sacchi accused Italy's media on Friday of 'Summary Justice' and making him a scapegoat for his side's humiliating early elimination from the European championship in June.

Sacchi, in his first public comments in Italy since his team's demise in the group stage, admitted he had made a few mistakes but blasted his fiercest critics.

"Most of the criticisms that followed the championship were well taken," he said.

"But not the Summary Justice in the media that was aimed at turning me into a scapegoat and which failed to point out the positive things we showed in England," Sacchi told a news conference at Rome's Olympic Stadium.

"When a team wins, it's everybody's merit: The players, the coach, the organization," he said.

"And when a team loses, it's everybody's fault."

The Italian media had called for Sacchi's head after the Euro 96 debacle. He was lambasted for not including key players in his starting lineup against eventual finalists the Czech Republic, a match the Italians lost.

But he has managed to weather the summer storm, aided by an indissoluble two-year contract he signed just before Euro 96 and a power vacuum within Italy's National Soccer Federation.

Last month Raffaele Pagnozzi was named 'extraordinary commissioner' of the federation after Italy's clubs failed to find a replacement for Antonio Matarrese, who resigned after the poor showing in England in June.

Newspapers have reported that Pagnozzi had no choice but to retain Sacchi for at least the remainder of 1996. The Italians play World Cup qualifiers against Moldova and Georgia next month.

Barring Italy failing to qualify, Sacchi is likely to stay on until the end of his multimillion dollar contract which includes the 1998 World Cup in France.

Asked if the absence of midfielder Roberto di Matteo and strikers Gianfranco Zola and Pierluigi Casiraghi contributed to Italy's defeat against the Czechs, Sacchi said: "I'm not sure we would have won if they had started."

He said his biggest error was not to have noticed a drop in his players' concentration after Italy beat Russia 2-1 in its first game.

"It was a serious error because we showed up on the pitch with a lack of determination and drive. To be excellent you have to be motivated: You can't think you have already reached your goal.

"Nevertheless, I think Italy was inferior to no one in terms of the quality of our game. And I believe we played better than Germany, even if we managed no more than a draw."

Italy's 0-0 draw with Germany sealed its exit from the tournament.

Sacchi, who led Italy to the 1994 World Cup final where it lost to Brazil on penalties, said he would recall most of the players he took to England for next month's qualifiers but would not mention specific names.

"We are following everybody, including those who have moved abroad," he said, referring to stalwarts Di Matteo and Fabrizio Ravanelli who moved to English clubs over the summer.

(Reuter)



PERTH, Australia (September 13): Spanish Carlos Sainz speeds his Ford Escort through a bend during a stage of the Australian Rally. Finnish Tommi Makinen on Mitsubishi can clinch his first world championship in the four-day Australian Rally if he wins and Sainz does not finish second.

(AFP PHOTO)

Manchester United Fans Want UEFA Action

MANCHESTER, England — Manchester United fans want action from UEFA after claiming they were subjected to violent treatment during Wednesday's European Cup match against Juventus in Turin.

The English club's Independent Supporters Association intends to compile a dossier of fans' experiences after allegations of baton and tear gas attacks by police. The violent incidents were said to have occurred in the city center and outside the stadium.

Suppoprters also claim they were searched before going into the ground and personal items such as loose change, keys and lighters were confiscated.

The association's chairman Johnny Flecks said that flares were directed into the United section of the stadium by Juventus fans and supporters were lucky to escape serious injury.

"We want the football authorities to launch an immediate investigation to ensure that similar events don't happen again during future European visits this season," said Flecks.

"We are compiling a dossier to give to UEFA and the (English) Football Association and want supporters who were involved in incidents or witnessed anything unpleasant to send us details.

"Lighted flares were thrown into the United section by Juventus fans and I understand that UEFA has specifically banned the use of fireworks within stadiums. The punishment apparently is ground closure.

"I would like to see what happens in this instance because flares were being set off all night."

(Reuter)

Baldato Stretches Lead With Second Stage Win

MARBELLA — Fabio Baldato added valuable seconds to his narrow lead in the Tour of Spain on Friday after sprinting to victory for his second successive stage win.

It was the seventh time in as many days that the honors had hung in the balance right until the finish line.

Bonus time picked up in the sprints has lifted Baldato to a provisional 22-second lead over Frenchman Laurent Jalabert, with another Italian, Giovanni Lombardi lying third.

Baldato's MG Team was on its guard all day as once's Jalabert, who took back a second in one of the special stage sprints, made signs of attacking the leader for the yellow jersey he lost to Baldato in Thursday's stage.

But with the attention focused on Jalabert, it was another once rider, Alex Zulle, who led the first of many unsuccessful breakaways.

For a time Biagio Conte looked to be in with a chance of recapturing the yellow jersey won in the first stage, but he and Denis Zanette were hauled in 20 kilometers from the end of the 150-kilometer route through the Costa del Sol resort.

But once again the shallow climbs of Spain's Mediterranean coast proved insufficent to kill off the hopes of the speed men, and Saturday's eighth stage — the second longest of the tour — promises to end the same way after the 220 kilometers between Marbella and Jerez.

(Reuter)

Wilkins May Celebrate 40th Birthday Playing for Hibernian

EDINBURGH, Scotland — Ray Wilkins, the player-manager dismissed last week by Queens Park Rangers, could celebrate his 40th birthday Saturday playing for Hibernian in the Scottish premier division.

Wilkins, a former England international, was a favorite in the Scottish league with Glasgow Rangers before moving to Queens Park. He played last week in England's second division.

Hibernian manager Alex Miller, under pressure after a 5-0 loss last weekend to Celtic, said he was interested in signing Wilkins and was expected to make the announcement Saturday prior to a match with Raith.

Wilkins' former england teammate Chris Waddle is also reported ready to join Scottish club Falkirk after being released by Sheffield Wednesday.

(AP)

Sports Digest

Tehran Times Service

TENNIS

BOURNEMOUTH, England — Greg Rusedski of Britain faces Jason Stoltenberg of Australia, and top-seeded Alberto Costa of Spain plays Danny Sapsford to highlight quarterfinal play in the Bournemouth International Clay-Court Tournament.

GOLF

GAINESVILLE, Virginia — Greg Norman, Ernie Els, Vijay Singh and Jumbo Ozaki lead the international team as it tries to avenge their defeat two years ago in the second Presidents Cup.

SAINT-NOM-LA-BRETECHE, France — England's Jamie Spence has a one-shot lead heading into the second round of the $1,007,500 Lancome Trophy Golf Tournament with Nick Faldo far back after his return to European play.

MONTREAL — John Leclair scores twice and Brett Hull adds a key goal as the United States skates to a 5-2 victory over Canada on Thursday night to force a deciding third game in the World Cup of hockey championship.

SOCCER

FOXBORO, Massachusetts — Martin Vasquez scores in the 74th minute to give Tampa Bay a 2-1 victory over the New England Revolution on Thursday night, and clinch U.S. major league soccer's Eastern Conference title.

CYCLING

MARBELLA, Spain — New Tour of Spain leader Fabio Baldato of Italy will try to head off an attack Friday by defending champion Laurent Jalabert of France and the rest of the pack in the 171 kilometer (106 mile) seventh-stage along a course from Malaga to Marbella.

BOXING

SYDNEY, Australia — Kostya Tszyu is expected to have the toughest battle for his International Boxing Federation junior welterweight title when he faces similarly unbeaten South African Jan Bergman on Saturday.

AUTO RACING

PERTH, Australia — Tommi Makinen of Finland, with a healthy lead in the world rally championship, is the man to beat in the four-day rally Australia that begins Friday.

CRICKET

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka — Zimbabwe is forced to follow on Friday, and — at 184 runs behind at the end of the third day's play with 10 wickets in hand — has an uphill task to save the first test against Sri Lanka.

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

NEW YORK — This was the week the Indianapolis colts were supposed to go to Dallas and discover how close they are to the top of the American National Football League. Instead, they just hope to survive.

(AP)

Romario Dropped Again by Valencia

VALENCIA, Spain — Brazil's World Cup star Romario marched out of training here on Friday after being dropped for the second time in a week by Valencia.

Coach Luis Aragones decided to stay with the team which beat Bayern Munich in the UEFA Cup in midweek for Sunday's league game at Real Zaragoza.

Romario, who had threatened to quit if he was not selected, refused to talk after this second blow to his pride.

Valencia paid a total of five million dollars, to Flamengo of Brazil and his former Spanish club Barcelona, for Romario.

(AFP)

Judge Lifts Arrest Warrant for Steffi's Father, Prosecutor Objects

MANNHEIM, Germany — The judge presiding in the tax evasion trial of tennis champion Steffi Graf's father on Friday lifted the arrest warrant that had kept Peter Graf in custody for more than a year.

But prosecutors at the Mannheim state court objected to the ruling and Graf remained in investigative custody while a higher court rules on the dispute.

Graf has been held since Aug. 2, 1995 on the prosecutors' contention that he was a flight risk.

His trial — on charges that he evaded Taxes on 40 million marks ($28 million) of his daughter's earnings between 1989-1993 — began Sept. 5. The next session is Sept. 17.

Chief Judge Joachim Plass said that 3 million marks ($2 million) bond was also a condition for freeing Graf from investigative custody.

The family tax adviser, Joachim Eckardt, who is on trial with Graf, can be freed on 300,000 marks ($200,000) bond, the judge ruled. Eckardt was also held in investigative custody and as a flight risk.

However, prosecutors also filed a complaint against the ruling to free Eckardt, and the high state court in Karlsruhe will also rule on that.

Chief prosecutor Hubert Jobski refused to comment.

In Germany it is not unusual for a court to release a defendant from investigative custody during the course of a trial, if the presiding judge decides there is minimal chance of flight.

In addition, Peter Graf and his lawyers informed the court at the first session of the trial that all taxes due in the case, some 19.9 million marks ($13.3 million), had been paid.

(AP)



(Contd from Pg. 1)

PRESIDENT...

tion of the Islamic Republic as the Constitution itself has provided for such exceptional cases, i.e., the approval of the Council for Determining the Expediency of the Islamic System.

The expediency council has ruled in even minor cases such as labor code and the law for the maintenance of jungles and pastures and for speeding up the process for curbing the inflation rate, he stressed.

Undoubtedly the management of the affairs of the Islamic system with the help of a key personality is the most important issue that the Council for Determining the Expediency of the Islamic System can deal with and decide upon.

Asked to comment on holding a referendum on the issue and any other possible ways for enabling President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani to run for president, he said there is no need for holding such a referendum, for it is quite clear that it is a national demand. However, there can be a referendum on the issue.

Asked whether Rafsanjani himself is ready to run for the president for the third time, he said that though his willingness is an important prerequisite, it is not necessary to ask his opinion prior to final decision in this regard. He stressed that President Rafsanjani's answer will be negative because he completely abides by law.

When President Rafsanjani realizes the urgency of the problem, he will be duty-bound to shoulder the responsibility. Moreover, when people give him the mandate to run for the third time, he will not evade this great responsibility.

Mar'ashi has been in close contact with President Rafsanjani for more than 30 years. He has worked for two years (1993-95) as head of the President Office.

Asked by a Muslim aArican journalist on the reason behind the growing U.S. hostility to the Islamic Republic of Iran, the president said the foundation of the Islamic Revolution is a threat to the U.S. interest. The Islamic Republic and the Muslim people of Iran have devoted their lives to the anti-arrogance struggle and advocating the oppressed all around the world.

President Rafsanjani said the Islamic Republic of Iran has put an end to the U.S. domination over Iran and to the latter's plunder of Iranian wealth and thus it is natural for the U.S. to step up its hostility to Islamic Iran.

The president said Iran humilated the U.S. for the first time and today Tehran is a stumbling bloc in the way of Washington's illegitimate interests.

Asked about transfer of Iranian crude oil to oil storage reservoirs in South Africa, the president said Iran and South Africa have already come to terms on the issue so it dates back to the time of the agreement. For the time being, he added, because of approach of winter season in Iran and the crisis in northern Iraq the oil market is booming and Iran has no extra oil to store in South Africa.

Iran produces and exports oil according to the qouta fixed by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), he said, nonetheless, if Iran wanted to reserve its oil at the South African storage tanks in future it would be ready for negotiations.

Asked about the outcome of his African tour, President Rafsanjani said his visit to six African states have been successful and served to consolidate ties between Iran and the six African states.

President Rafsanjani said all the leaders of the countries visited by him were informed of Iranian ability to invest in their countries and that Iran would be a good partner for them in economic, industrial, trade and cultural areas.

Later on Saturday, President Rafsanjani visited several goldmines where he got acquaited with technologies used for extracting gold from mines.

(Contd from Pg. 1)

POPE...

Minister Benjamin) Netanyahu will only retract his policies if he were to be confronted by a strong Arab position," Pope Shenuda said.

He praised the resolutions taken at an Arab summit in Cairo in June threatening to freeze normalization of ties with the Zionist state unless it made progress in the peace process.

Pope Shenuda also hailed Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak who said he would scrap a regional economic conference scheduled for Cairo in November unless Israel gave up its hardline positions.

(AFP)

(Contd from Pg. 1)

RAFSANJANI...

their retun to their homeland are solved.

The Iranian president said Israel has proved time and again that it does not abide by its commitments regarding land for peace deal.

(Contd from Pg. 1)

BOSNIAN...

sands of voters — mainly refugees — have already cast ballots and thousands more were returning to Bosnia Saturday from the neighboring states of Serbia and Croatia.

NATO troops in Sarajevo were called in to calm a crowd of around 1,000 people angry that they could not vote. Eight polling stations were briefly closed, but the incident was later resolved, an election official said.

Bosnia's Muslim police chief Avdo Hebib — who told Bosnian radio he was "generally happy" with the first two hours of voting — nonetheless accused Serbs of firing several shots at a polling station and a policeman near Sarajevo Saturday. But added there were no casualties.

Speaking in the northern town of Brcko, Carl Bildt, the top civilian peace coordinator for Bosnia, said: "It's going fine so far."

NATO troops were called in Saturday to calm an angry crowd frustrated that they could not vote, the OSCE official said.

Jeff Fischer, a spokesman for the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, which is running the polls, said NATO troops had been called in to calm a crowd of around 1,000 people angered at not being able to vote in polling stations in the Novi Grad district of Sarajevo.

Eight polling stations were closed temporarily during the incident, which occurred around midday (100 GMT) and ended after NATO troops and UN police were sent to the area, a UN spokesman said.

Iranian Foreign Monistry's spokesman Mahmoud Mohammadi expressed hope that fair and free elections in Bosnia-Herzegovina will consolidate peace and calm in that country and will preserve its territorial integrity.

The general elections in Bosnia-Herzgovina were held yesterday.

Mohammadi added that although nine months has passed since the cessation of fighting and signing of the peace accord, conditions are not fully right for holding of elections in the war-torn country.

He, however, expressed hope that a democratically elected government in the republic will embark on its main duties based on the interest of the people and will gradually wipe out the mentalities of the war time.

The spokesman expressed hope that the elections will be held in complete neutrality.

He said that the Islamic Republic of Iran since the very beginning of the crisis in Bosnia has stood by the people of that country and has spared no assistance in the difficult days of the Bosnian people.

The Islamic Republic of Iran by sending teams to monitor the elections likes to see that elections were held in the best possible manner.

(Contd from Pg. 1)

VELAYATI...

Commenting on Tehran-Pretoria relations, Velayati reiterated that the two countries trade exchange amounts to $1 billion annually. He said that it is hoped that with the implementation of recent agreements it will double.

More on the outcome of the African tour, Velayati said that Uganda, Tanzania and Zimbabwe will soon open their embassies in Tehran.

More on U.S. reaction to the visit, he said that following the announcement of achievements of President Rafsanjani's visit to Kenya, the U.S. granted a financial aid to Kenya.

The Americans, who are traditionally behind tension in Africa in the recent months have been instigating the entire world against Sudan. As soon as they found out that Iran is to mediate between Uganda and Sudan the Americans announced that they were planning to help ease tension between the two countries, he added.

In the same context, after Iran's humanitarian aid for the flood-stricken of Sudan arrived at Khartoum airport, the U.S. announced dispatch of aid to that country, Velayati stated.

The African people consider Iran as the pillar of world of Islam, he said, adding they are ready to cooperate with Iran in all areas.

Absence of dynamic relations between Iran and African states in the past is attributed to unfamiliarity of both the African statesmen and nations with realities of the Islamic Republic, Velayati said.

Many African countries are in the process of opening their embassies in Iran to facilitate their access to Central Asia, the Caucasus, the Persian Gulf and Arab states, he said adding this is a sign of political importance of Iran in the region.

(IRNA)

(Contd from Pg. 1)

ARAB...

in the region on the part of the United States and Turkey," the official said, after consultations ahead of a plenary session of an Arab League ministerial council.

The league's secretary general, Esmat Abdel Meguid, chaired the meeting attended by foreign ministers of 13 countries, including Iraq, and representatives of Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Oman and Somalia.

The ministers, at an informal gathering late Friday, already condemned Washington's military build-up in the Persian Gulf as an "act of provocation."

The league has denounced U.S. missile attacks on Iraqi targets earlier this month and voiced concern over plans by Turkey to set up a "security zone" in northern Iraq as a violation of Iraqi sovereignty.

The foreign ministers on Saturday also discussed the stalled Middle East peace process and "obstacles" facing the Palestinian, Syrian and Lebanese tracks of the peace process with Israel.

Abdel Meguid stressed the need to forge a common Arab stand and bolster coordination, especially on the Palestinian issue, at international forums such as the United Nations.

Palestinian President Yasser Arafat was to address the foreign ministers' conference later Saturday to discuss Israeli plans to expand Jewish settlements on the Palestinian territories and tighten its grip on Bait-ul-Moqaddas.

Arafat who asked for the meeting with Arab ministers was to make a personal appeal for pressure on Israel.

Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Mussa said on Friday that Arab leaders were "very pessimistic" about the future of the Middle East peace process and would reconsider the policy of normalizing ties with Israel.

Palestinian Information Minister Yasser Abed Rabbo said "recommendations" to freeze the normalization process with Israel "could be adopted."

The foreign ministers were holding the 106 ordinary session of their ministerial council which was to discuss a 46-point agenda on which Iraq is not officially included.

Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jaber al-Sabah said Saturday that Arab states were "unanimous" in backing Iraq's territorial integrity.

"There is a unanimous attitude to back Iraqi integrity and its right to establish its sovereignty on all its territory to oppose any foreign intervention or division of Iraq," he said at an Arab League ministerial meeting.

He stressed that Kuwait, which Iraq occupied from August 1990 to February 1991, was also committed to Iraq's territorial integrity.

"We are more concerned than the others to preserve the integrity of Iraq. But we hope that (Iraqi President) Saddam Hussein does not carry out acts of madness that lead to intervention by others," Sheikh Sabah said.

Asked on the use of Kuwaiti bases by U.S. warplanes, Sheikh Sabah told reporters: "Our country has the right to defend itself. Don't forget the bitter experiences we have known."

Kuwait was the only Arab state to openly support the U.S. Cruise missile strikes on Iraq on September 3 and 4 after Baghdad's military intervention in a Kurdish "safe haven" of northern Iraq.

(AFP)

(Contd from Pg. 1)

NEXT...

Stressing that the future president should wholly observe the ideals and sincerely follow the path of the late leader of the Islamic Revolution Imam Khomeini, the MP added that the political record of the next president should demonstrate that he has not been seeking to establish a specific political outlook in society.

(Contd from Pg. 1)

SYRIA...

The offical Syrian newspaper *Ath-Thawra*, meanwhile, accused Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of wanting to restart negotiations "by erasing six years of U.S. peace efforts."

Muallem added that only after Netanyahu has "modified his positions and respects the framework of the Madrid Conference" will it be possible to find a formula to relaunch the peace negotiations, frozen for more than six months.

According to Muallem, who spoke by telephone from Washington, Netanyahu wants to restart negotiations with Syria only to satisfy Israeli security needs, while "continuing to ignore the essential element of peace, a complete Israeli withdrawal from the Syrian Golan Heights."

The ambassador added that the Middle East peace process, launched in 1991 in Madrid, was "based on the principle of land for peace."

Syria gave a cool reception Friday to a new U.S. peace shuttle in the Middle East, saying State Department coordinator Dennis Ross was unlikely to bring fresh ideas for a resumption of talks with Israel.

State Department spokesman Glyn Davies said Thursday that the Middle East peace coordinator was likely to travel to the region "in the coming days."

U.S. President Bill Clinton, meanwhile, sent a message to his Syrian counterpart Hafez al-Assad, the official news agency SANA said, without disclosing its contents.

"Latest statements by Benjamin Netanyahu and developments on the Syrian Golan and other occupied Arab territories do not give us grounds to expect anything new from the visit," state radio said.

(AFP)

(Contd from Pg. 1)

CLASHES...

The 22-month-old militia, which has vowed to topple the Kabul coalition led by Afghan President Burhanuddin Rabbani and Prime Minister Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, now controls 17 of 30 provinces in Afghanistan.

A reliable Afghan source said a "peaceful" Taleban take over of a third eastern province, Kunar, was likely any time.

Strategically unimportant Kunar neighboring Nangarhar has been under the control of a pro-Saudi religious group called Salafi Jamatudawa, which the source said was willing to hand over to the Taleban.

"The real battle will take place at Sarobi where we will test each other's strength," said Ghairat Baheer, special representative of Hekmatyar, his father-in-law.

"We have sent reinforcements to defend Sarobi and we will be able to blunt any Taleban offensive," Baheer, who is also the Afghan ambassador-designate to Pakistan, told AFP in Islamabad.

Sources in Qandahar, the militia's headquarters in southwest Afghanistan, said the Taleban leadership had not yet decided when to launch an attack on the government's Sarobi fortress.

The Afghan Islamic Press (AIP) said the rival forces pounded each other's positions with artillery at the frontline off Sarobi.

The private information service, quoting sources inside Afghanistan, said the Taleban were 30 kilometers (18 miles) from Sarobi on the national highway from Jalalabad to Kabul.

It reported a massing of armaments including 70 tanks and hundreds of cannons by Taleban militia in Nangarhar, presumably for oncoming offensives against government forces.

AIP said administration offices had resumed work in Jalalabad and Taleban had reopened schools, but three girls schools remained closed.

In Kabul, UN under-secretary for political affairs, Marrac Goulding, expressed concern over current Taleban military actions, saying "it does not show that they have given up the military option."

This Taleban offence was "a complicating factor" to the chances of peace in Afghanistan, which was "viewed with concern," Goulding told reporters.

Goulding said he and the head of the UN Special Mission to Afghanistan, Norbert Holl, would be reiterating the UN's previous call for negotiations to settle the Afghan conflict whey they next visit the Taleban.

The mountain passes of Laghman, which reportedly fell to the Taleban without any resistance, open into the strategic Panjsher Valley, a citadel of Rabbani's military strongman Ahmad Shah Masood.

(AFP)

(Contd from Pg. 10)

NEW...

display on a new PC shaped like a boom box stereo. And some Japanese companies will have flat-panel TVs, although built with different technology, out late this year or in early 1997. They will priced around $5,000.

(AP)

WEATHER

The I.R. of Iran Meteorological Organization announced today's weather as follows:

Forecast for Tehran: Max. temp. 34°C Min. temp. 23°C

Clear to half cloudy

Warmest Point: Dehloran 45°C

Coldest Point: Khalkhal 5°C

Some cities of the world

Cities	Max °C	Cities	Max °C
Riyadh	41	Vienna	--
Istanbul	27	Moscow	10
Rome	22	Madrid	23
Athens	29	Abu Dhabi	37
London	17	Karachi	–
Paris	17	New Delhi	–
Frankfurt	16	Kuwait	–

Bosnia Calls On Iran to Contribute to Its Reconstruction

SARAJEVO — Director General of the Central and Northern Europe Department at Foreign Ministry Ebrahim Rahimpour and President of the Muslim-Croat Federation Kresimir Zubak conferred here Saturday.

The two sides exchanged views on various topics notably the nationwide elections in Bosnia-Herzegovina, closer cooperation between Muslims and Croats within the framework of the federation and also regional issues.

Zubak at the meeting thanked Iran's assistance during the war period in Bosnia and called for more serious contribution to Bosnia's reconstruction and economic development.

The two officials underlined the necessity of maintaining territorial integrity of Bosnia after the elections.

Rahimpour, who heads Iranian delegation in charge of monitoring Bosnian elections, had arrived here Thursday. (IRNA)

Over 2,500 Refugees Under Medical Care in Border Areas

TEHRAN — Over 2,500 Iraqi Kurdish refugees have undergone medical treatment by the Iranian medical teams dispatched to the border areas of western Kermanshah Province.

According to the head of the provincial Department of Foreigners Affairs, 25 refugees were hospitalized.

Ahmad Safavi said that the provincial medical teams keep on looking after the Iraqi Kurdish patients while Iranian relief groups are providing them with food and other essential relief supplies.

In related news, a dozen of the stranded refugees who had been injured in northern Iraq clashes were taken to hospital in Piranshahr, West Azarbaijan Province.

According to Piranshar Governor Jebrail Imani, the 12 injured refugees were from the cities of Sulaimaniya, Arbil and Qal'eh Dizah who had managed to reach Piranshahr's Qamtareh border point.

The Iraqi Kurdish refugees have been accommodated in some 200 tents erected on Iranian soil, he pointed out. (IRNA)

Hurricane Fausto Batters Southern Baja California

LA PAZ, Mexico — Hurricane Fausto battered Baja California, downing power poles, smashing windows and disrupting the tourist business of usually sunny Cabo San Lucas and La Paz.

At least one person, an American, was reported killed Friday evening when a power line toppled onto a trailer near Cabo San Lucas. More than 2,500 people, mostly in poor neighborhoods around La Paz, were evacuated to shelters at schools, the Red Cross said.

Waves up to 15 feet (nearly 5 meters) walloped Pacific beaches along the southern tip of Baja. Fausto's winds and heavy rains forced ports to close and car rental agencies to shut rather than let their vehicles out into the storm.

Beach hotels all along the coast ordered guests out of their rooms to avoid being hit by broken glass. Hotel workers herded the guests into basements or interior meeting halls far away from fragile windows.

"All this for $200 a night," said one American visitor, Stanley Cohen. "I took a chance on the hurricane season and lost." (AP)

Indonesia's Megawati Said on Travel Blacklist

JAKARTA — Indonesian opposition figurehead Megawati Sukarnoputri was briefly stopped at a Jakarta airport on Saturday after being told she was banned from travelling abroad, advisers said.

"This morning she was going to leave for Singapore for the weekend but the immigration officers said she was not allowed to leave the country as she had been blacklisted," Kwik Kian Gie, a Megawati adviser, told Reuters.

Sources say they were told by Megawati that a computer screen showed she was blacklisted when she tried to pass the immigration barrier.

Megawati, ousted leader of the Indonesian Democractic Party (PDI), has been questioned three times by authorities since the July 27 riots in Jakarta which were sparked when police seized party headquarters from her loyalist supporters.

At least four people died and scores of buildings and vehicles were set ablaze in the riots, the worst in the capital in more than 20 years. (Reuter)

UNHCR, Red Crescent: 30,000 to 60,000 Kurdish Refugees in Iran

TEHRAN — More than 30,000 Iraqi Kurdish refugees have taken shelter in Iran, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) said Saturday, while the Iranian Red Crescent put the figure at nearly 60,000.

The local UNHCR office here said its personnel had counted between 30,000 to 35,000 Kurdish refugees in six main camps, of the dozen or so located along the Iraq-Iran border.

The Iranian Red Crescent said for its part that nearly 60,000 refugees from fighting between Kurdish groups in northern Iraq were on Iranian soil, mainly in the provinces of West Azerbaijan, Iranian Kurdistan and Kermanshah.

Iran has issued several appeals for international assistance to help it cope with the influx of Iraqi Kurdish refugees.

Hassan Rouhani, head of the Parliamentary Foreign Affairs Commission, reiterated the appeal in remarks published in Saturday's newspapers.

"We are asking international organizations to help the Kurdish refugees while preparing for their repatriation," he said.

Rouhani said Iran was obliged to accept the refugees because they had come under attack from Iraqi forces along the border. (AFP)

18 People Wounded in Philippine Bus Bombing

COTABATO, Philippines — At least 18 people were injured in a bomb explosion linked to an extortion attempt against a bus company, police said Saturday.

The bombing late Friday came just an hour after police, posing as bus company employees delivering money to the extortionists, arrested a man and two women.

The explosion ripped a hole inside a bus owned by the North Cotabato Transit Corp., wounding 17 passengers and the bus conductor. Three passengers were in serious condition at a hospital in Cotabato, 880 kilometers (550 miles) southeast of Manila, officials said.

Police believe the bomb was hidden under a pile of egg trays which was carried into the bus by a man who placed it under his seat before getting off at a nearby town.

It was the third recent attack against the company. On Sept. 3, a homemade bomb exploded near a bus parked inside the company terminal. No one was injured in that attack. In the second attack Wednesday, a man lobbed a gasoline bomb at a bus driver, injuring him and three passengers.

Hours before Friday's bombing, a man called by cellular phone demanding 2 million pesos ($76,900) from bus company manager Untin Saluwa to stop the attacks. (AP)

Surge in Sectarian Tension Troubles Pakistan

PESHAWAR, Pakistan — Pakistani paramilitary troops launched a house-to-house arms search Saturday in a curfew-bound tribal town after sectarian clashes left scores dead over five days, local sources said.

In a separate incident, five people, including three policemen, were wounded Saturday in a gun battle between Shia demonstrators and police in the Punjab provincial capital Lahore, witnesses and police said.

Police said the exchange of fire started after police intervened as scores of angry demonstrators smashed more than a dozen private vehicles near where some 200 Shia Muslims performed mass prayers for a slain leader.

Mureed Abbas Yazdani, head of a Shia faction Sipah-i-Mohammad Pakistan, was shot dead by unidentified men at his residence in Islamabad on Thursday, triggering a wave of resentment in the Shia minority community.

At Parachinar, in northwest Pakistan, tension remained high, though the town was reported to be relatively calm Saturday after fierce duels between Shia and Sunni Muslim factions armed with automatic weapons, rockets and mortars. (AFP)

U.S. Sends More 5,000 Troops to Kuwait

WASHINGTON — The Clinton administration dispatched another 5,000 army troops to Kuwait to man scores of tanks and armored vehicles, raising its show of force against Iraq's Saddam Hussein.

The troops were to be airlifted this weekend from Fort Hood, Texas. The airlift, combined with a second aircraft carrier task force already en route to the Persian Gulf, will raise the U.S. presence in the Persian Gulf to about 32,000.

Pentagon Spokesman Kenneth Bacon said the dispatch of the troops was one part of a package of steps put together days ago by the president's national security team.

"Every decision that's been executed this week was made a week ago today and we've just been following through with a deployment plan to strengthen our deterrent forces in the area," Bacon said in an interview.

The troop deployment was announced hours after Saddam's offer to stop targeting U.S. jets flying over Iraq.

The 3rd brigade of the army's 1st Cavalry Division at Fort Hood - consisting of about 5,000 soldiers - will join 1,200 soldiers that have been exercising in Kuwait since August. They will continue the military exercise for three months.

The troops, led by Col. Eric Olson, will bring out of storage 110 M1-A1 tanks and 125 M2-A2 bradley fighting vehicles already prepositioned in Kuwait and will take part in exercise "intrinsic action," a desert war game. (AP)

(Contd from Pg. 3)

RUSSIA...

patch reported.

The four-year federal program to increase Russia's gold and silver production aims to attract 5.7 billion dollars in investments of which 32 percent are expected to be supplied by mining companies and 43 percent by foreign and domestic investors, he said.

Gritsayev emphasized that the ongoing reforms in Russia created a favorable climate for foreign investors who have interests in gold mining, previously closed for outsiders.

In 1995, foreign investments in Russia's gold mining totalled 48.5 billion dollars.

At present, Russia is the world's fifth largest gold producer and ranks third in terms of explored gold reserves.

In 1995 it produced 132 tons of gold versus 149.5 tons in 1993.

Six Killed in Activist Attacks

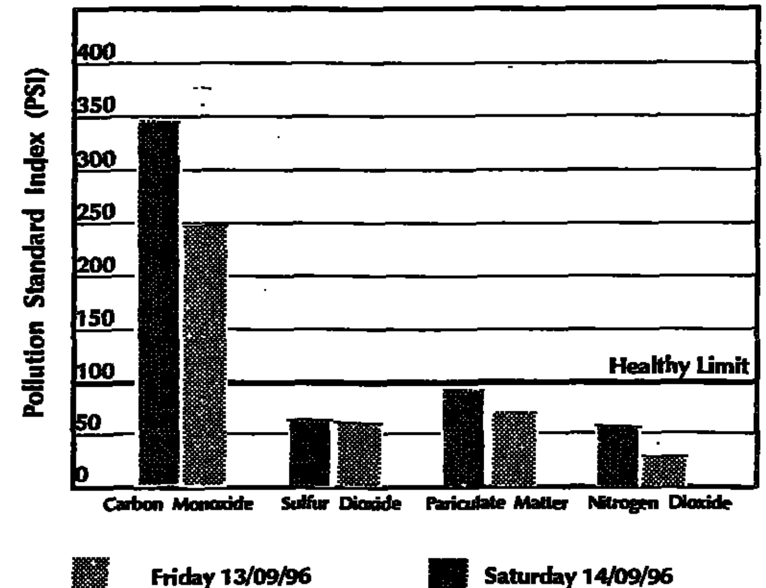
CAIRO — Islamic activists shot dead six people and wounded a security guard in two separate attacks, including one on Muslim worshipers, in the southern province of Asyut, police said on Saturday.

In the first of Friday's attacks, gunmen opened fire on civilians standing outside a house in the village of Nazla al-Mustagida in Asyut, 386 kilometers (240 miles) south of Cairo, police said.

Mohammad Hashem Emad and Ahmad Mekki Hussein were killed and a security guard, Mohammad Hussein Qassem, was wounded in the attack, police said. The activists accuse security guards of acting as informants.

In the other attack, gunmen opened fire on Muslims performing evening prayers in the village of Tell al-Zayed, killing Ali Ahmad Yunis, Fayez Emad Abdel Haq, Khayri Abdel Hamid Atta and Issam abu Deif Mohammad, police said. (AFP)

Last 48 Hours Air Quality in Tehran



Eight Killed, Anti-Election Protests in Kashmir

SRINAGAR, India — Eight people including a political activist died in clashes in Kashmir, as anti-election protesters fought with the police across this state summer capital on Saturday.

Separatists shot dead a supporter of the Regional National Conference Party while he was putting up election banners in the city's Lalbazar commercial district, police said.

Seven others including a police inspector and two militants have died in separate clashes in Srinagar and elsewhere in the Indian-administered Himalayan region during the past 24 hours, they added.

Three politicians escaped unhurt after attackers fired and lobbed grenades at them during election rallies elsewhere in Kashmir on Saturday, officials here said. (AFP)

هکذا من الأرحل

Cat Walks 200 Kilometres Home

LISBON -- A seven-year-old cat walked 200 kilometres (120 miles) home after going missing on a camp site during the summer holidays.

Camila, whose extraordinary odyssey was covered by all the national newspapers and television here, disappeared from the family tent while they were camping and all efforts to find her were in vain.

"I couldn't believe my eyes when she turned up at the house. It was Camila alright, a bit thinner and her claws worn down," her owner was quoted as saying, adding that he had no idea how the clever cat found her way home. (AFP)

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Shepherd Burns to Death Trying to Save His Flock

ATHENS -- A Greek shepherd was burned to death at dawn Saturday trying to save his flock of goats, which also perished in the fire at Loutraki, in the Peloponnese, police said.

The man's widow was also fighting for her life in hospital in the town, 90 kilometers (50 miles) southwest of Athens.

The fire broke out on Friday and was being spread on Saturday by high winds. (AFP)



BAALBECK, LEBANON (Sept. 13): Sheikh Hasan Nasrallah (C), secretary-general of Hezbollah threatened to respond vigourously against Israel if it attacked Lebanon and Syria. The sheikh spoke during an election meeting of his party in his bastion of Baalbeck, in the western plain of the Bekaa. (AFP PHOTO)

10 Die, Scores Hurt in Train Accident

DHAKA — At least 10 people were killed and dozens injured when an express train was derailed near Dhaka on Saturday, rescuers and hospital sources said.

They said nearly 30 injured people were admitted to the capital's Medical College Hospital. Many others have been rushed to other hospitals and clinics, one doctor said.

Firefighters helping to free people trapped in the wreckage told reporters the accident occurred near Khilkhet on the outskirts of the Bangladeshi capital.

"Five bodies have been recovered and we can see at least five more entangled in the debris," one rescue official said.

The cause of the accident was not immediately known.

"The death toll will definitely rise," the official said.

Passenger Shoeb Chowdhury, who escaped with minor injuries, told Reuters five carriages of the Mahanagar Express, which runs between Dhaka and Chittagong port city, went off the tracks. (Reuter)

Dissident Khmer Rouge Leader Receives Royal Pardon

PHNOM PENH — Cambodia's King Norodom Sihanouk pardoned dissident Khmer Rouge leader Ieng Sary on Saturday for his role in the feared guerilla group's "killing fields" reign in the late 1970s, one of the country's two co-premiers said.

"His majesty the king signed the amnesty before 11 o'clock this morning with the support of two thirds of (the members of) Parliament," Second Prime Minister Hun Sen told Reuters.

The premiers wanted amnesty for Ieng Sary, who split from Khmer Rouge hardliners in early August, in the interests of national reconciliation after decades of war and bloodshed.

The king had earlier said he would only consider an amnesty on receiving written requests from the government and a two-thirds majority of the 120-strong Parliament.

Hun Sen said it had been easy to collect the parliamentary signatures as he and First Prime Minister Prince Norodom Ranariddh were leaders of the two main parties, the Cambodian People's Party and the Prince's Funcinpec Party.

Ieng Sary, who was foreign minister during Pol Pot's brutal 1975-79 Khmer Rouge regime when more than one million people died, was sentenced to death in absentia for his role in the genocide.



SIHANOUK

But he has denied any involvement in the killings and on Monday said the government should sort out his legal status in order for peace talks to advance.

Ieng Sary split from the Khmer Rouge last month with several thousand followers and later struck a cease-fire deal with the government. (Reuter)

Karachi Peaceful as MQM Strike Gets Underway

KARACHI – Pakistan's commercial capital Karachi was partially paralysed but peaceful Saturday as an ethnic opposition party launched a one-day strike to protest what it called government coercion of members to switch sides.

It is the second strike in less than a week by the Karachi-based Mohajir Qaumi Movement (MQM), which said dozens of its members had been arrested in overnight raids around the city and accused the government of "state terrorism and coercion."

All main commercial centers and markets remained closed Saturday morning and traffic was sparse but started picking up towards midday, witnesses said.

Police and troops patrolled the streets and manned check-points around the city to deter violence.

Banks, government offices, schools and colleges and the Karachi Stock Exchange were closed as usual for the weekend. (AFP)

Clashes Mar Start of Bossi's Italy Secession Drive

CREMONA, Italy — Secessionist leader Umberto Bossi was taking his three-day "independence" march across Italy to his Northern League Party's heartlands on Saturday after clashes erupted after a rally on the first leg.

Police wearing riot gear and carrying shields moved in to contain some 700 ultra-left-wing youths who were pelting league supporters with stones and glass in the northern city of Turin on Friday night after a speech by Bossi and a fireworks show.

A police spokesman said tear gas was used to disperse the clashes but said no arrests were made. Italian television showed shots of a large group of youths with banners and others running through the streets, displacing metal crush barriers.

Five police officers were hurt, the most serious having been hit on the head, and some cars damaged, the spokesman said. Several civilians were also reported slightly injured.

"The situation was always under control," he said.

The ugly scenes were not the most auspicious end to the first day of Bossi's "march to the sea" from the source of the River Po in the west to the lagoon city of Venice in the east.

Bossi launched his journey with a quasi-religious rite at the Alpine source of the Po, when he clambered over rocks to fill a flask with water symbolizing the birth of his nation.

The firebrand leader aims to proclaim independence for the self-styled state of "Padania" in Venice on Sunday evening, but his rabble-rousing anti-Rome invective contained darker hints. (Reuter)

Pope for Operation Before End of the Year

VATICAN CITY — Pope John Paul II is suffering from an appendix problem and will enter hospital for an operation before the end of the year, the Vatican said on Saturday.

Vatican Spokesman Joaquin Navarro-Valls said the Pope would go ahead with a September 19-22 trip to France and an October 6 beatification ceremony at the Vatican.

A statement said a series of abdominal pains and fevers the 76-year-old Pope has suffered since last Christmas were caused by "recurring episodes" of an inflamed appendix.

The hospitalization would take place some time between the beatification and the end of the year. The statement said the Pope's doctor had consulted other physicians on September 12 and they advised the Pope to undergo surgery. The Polish-born pontiff agreed, it said.

The statement added that all other aspects of the Pope's health gave no cause for "particular concern". (Reuter)

Far-Right Defies Father Over Race March

PARIS — The extreme-right National Front ignored the wishes of the father of a 14-year-old boy who was stabbed to death, and went ahead Saturday with a march that many saw as racial provocation.

Six to seven thousand NF supporters — according to both police and organizers — marched through the streets of Marseille, supposedly in protest at rising crime, following the death of Nicolas Bourgat, 14. The boy was stabbed in the street Monday in an unprovoked attack by two other teenagers.

A 15-year-old boy of Moroccan immigrant origin has been charged with the killing. His alleged accomplice was released without charged.

"The killer is a foreigner (who is) already delinquent," said NF deputy leader Bruno Megret before the march got underway. "With the NF in power, he would never have had French nationality."

The marchers carried banners declaring "Nicolas Murdered - Never Again," and "Protect Our Children."

Around 200 police guarded the route from the port to the city's prefecture, where Le Pen delivered a speech holding the city's politicians responsible for the crime. (AFP)

Foreign Doctors to Advise on Yeltsin Heart Surgery



MOSCOW — The Kremlin is bringing in top Western heart specialists to advise Russian doctors preparing for President Boris Yeltsin's bypass operation.

The 65-year-old Kremlin leader was admitted to Moscow's Central Clinical Hospital for check-ups ahead of his operation, NTV commercial television said on Friday night.

Presidential Spokesman Sergei Yastrzhembsky was quoted by NTV as saying that Yeltsin's stay in hospital was "not connected with any unforseen circumstances", and he had not been admitted to the hospital suddenly.

"The press secretary reported that doctors had decided that the president had to undergo a series of new medical tests which could only be carried out effectively as an in-patient," NTV reported.

The Presidential Press Office earlier said in a statement that two top German cardiologists — offered by Chancellor Helmut Kohl — would join the Russian team of experts.

The German government named the two as Axel Haverich, director of a clinic for heart surgery at Hanover's Medical Technical College, and Thorsten Wahlers who also worked there.

The specialists will decide around September 28 when to operate on Yeltsin, who was reelected for a second four-year term in July. (Reuter)

Moroccans Massively Approve Constitutional Reform

RABAT – Moroccans voted overwhelmingly in a referendum Friday for a reform setting up a unique bicameral parliament in which both chambers can overturn the government and enact laws.

Final results issued early Saturday by the Interior Ministry said 99.56 percent of voters had approved the constitutional change, which diplomats here suggested was designed to reassure Morocco's Western friends while enabling King Hassan II to keep the opposition under control.

The Interior Ministry said turnout was 82.95 percent - less than the 97.4 percent achieved in another constitutional referendum four years ago.

The ministry said only 45,324 voters out of a registered total of 12,351,871 had voted against the reform.

Of the four main opposition parties only one, the Far-Left Organization for Democratic and Socialist Action had called for a boycott of the poll, claiming the reform merely sought to give the monarchy a "democratic facade".

Up to now the Moroccan Parliament was composed of a single chamber whose 333 "representatives" were elected for two thirds by direct suffrage with the remainder chosen on an indirect basis.

According to the opposition, this system allowed the regime of King Hassan II to "readjust" the outcome of any election to its own advantage. (AFP)

President Suharto to Thank Richest 500 for Poverty Alleviation

JAKARTA — President Suharto met Saturday with Indonesia's 500 wealthiest business people to thank them for contributing to a national poverty alleviation scheme, reports said.

Indonesia's business conglomerates currently "donate" two percent of their after tax income to the self reliant prosperity fund, set up in January to help reduce poverty in this nation of over 195 million people.

However, Suharto is not going to ask the individuals for more contributions during the meeting at the Bogor presidential palace in west Java, the *Jakarta Post* quoted the Minister for Population Haryono Suyono as saying Friday.

A 1995 presidential decree calls on companies and individuals with an after tax income of more than 100 million rupiah ($42,863) a year to contribute two percent of their earnings to the poverty fund.



SUHARTO

The scheme has so far raised 320 billion rupiah ($137.2 million), Suyono said.

In return the government offers a tax deduction of two percent for those companies which sponsor the fund.

The contribution is then handed out in units of 2,000 rupiah (86 cents) per family under a national savings scheme. The scheme also allows poor people to borrow money to set up small business ventures.

Suyono said about 10 million families had received initial loans.

"This is a breakthrough, because now, even poor people can have savings," he said.

A 1995 survey by the Indonesian Business Data Center found that Indonesia's top 300 companies controlled 47.8 percent of the country's gross national product, with a combined turnover of $73.5 billion in 1994.

(AFP)

Taiwan Says Time to Slow China Investment

TAIPEI — Taiwan's top economic policymaker said on Friday it was time for local businessmen to slow their investments in mainland China until long-stalled bilateral talks were resumed.

"It is time to slow our investment in the mainland," Chiang Ping-Kun, chairman of the cabinet's Council for Economic Planning and Development told Reuters in a telephone interview.

"Relations between both sides of the Taiwan strait are at their low ebb, the mainland side has not shown any genuine and sincere response to our proposal for talks," Chiang said. "At this moment, we should not put all our eggs in one basket."

But Chiang denied the government is tightening its economic policy toward China. "Our economic policy (toward mainland China) remains unchanged. We just hope investors can take all (the) factors into account when considering investments in China," he said.

President Lee Teng-Hui said in August the island needed to review its policy of targeting China as its main market to avoid over-dependence on the mainland for investment.

Taiwan and China have been rivals since a civil war divided them in 1949 and Beijing still regards the island as a renegade province. Though all investments in China must be government approved, Taiwan remains concerned that its economy may become too dependent on China — and hence politically vulnerable.

China angrily suspended semi-official talks in mid-1995 after President Lee's private but high-profile visit to the United States, which Beijing said showed Taiwan wanted independence rather than reunification with the mainland.

Chiang's remarks came one day after the announcement by food giant President Enterprises that it had abandoned plans to build a U.S.$100 million power plant on the Chinese mainland.

President said it would instead invest more than T$30 billion (U.S.$1.1 billion) in local projects over two years.

President is Taiwan's top investor in China, with U.S.$200 million tied up in 15 mainland companies.

The government welcomed president's decision, Chiang said.

"Its (President's) decision to stay in Taiwan will help Taiwan's economic development," Chiang said.

On August 16, giant Formosa Plastics Group said it was ending a deal to build what would have been the biggest Taiwanese project in China to date, a U.S.$3 billion power plant project in coastal Fujian Province.

Some 30,000 Taiwanese companies have poured more than U.S.$20 billion into China since a political thaw in the late 1980s.

(Reuter)

Grain Prices Extend a Decline

LONDON — Benchmark Chicago wheat futures sank on Friday in a new signal that bumper harvests in several parts of the world are easing pressure on tight stocks of grain.

The new retreat on the nearby Chicago Board of Trade (CBOT) futures contract took it down to just under $4.30 per bushel.

It was lower by some five cents on the day towards the mid-session and compared with a historic "spike" of $7.50 at the top of the market back in March.

Commodity markets had seen grains and oil rally in tandem earlier this year, raising concerns about inflation.

But grains are now falling away, and metals are also easing, leaving oil to power upward on its own to post-Persian Gulf war highs amid new tensions between the United States and Iraq.

Friday saw benchmark Brent crude oil futures as high as $24.27 a barrel, only 12 cents below levels seen on Wednesday which were the highest on London's International Petroleum Exchange since January 1991.

"I wouldn't be a seller in this market. If there is action over the weekend then prices will rally again," said Peter Bogin at Cambridge Energy Research Associates (CERA) in Paris.

Oil prices rallied nearly $2 a barrel this week.

Chicago grain traders cited increased competition for U.S. exports for the latest drop in wheat futures. In latest deals, China recently bought 700,000 tons from Canada.

Grain prices slid in France and in Britain this week on pressure from bumper European Union crops. September Rouen wheat was quoted at 875 francs per ton, down from 890-895 last week.

Cocoa nations were winding up a week of talks in London on Friday with an accord to extend cuts in output that skeptical traders said were so modest as to seem almost invisible.

The futures market in London, trading at scarcely changed just under 1,000 pounds sterling per ton on the December contract, was unmoved by news of the emerging accord at the 36-member International Cocoa Organization (ICCO).

Traders noted that the ICCO can only recommend, rather than enforce, even the tiny cuts of some 90,000 tons in world production over the next three years now envisaged.

Gold closed in London $1 firmer at $383.05 an ounce despite a prospect that the international monetary fund may agree on making sales of gold to raise money to assist poor third world nations.

The price of gold has sunk to two-month lows in recent days as big U.S. investment funds, expecting prices to sink on fears of fresh supplies of gold in the market, took short positions.

But despite the jittery mood, the market had already factored in a positive decision and was now poised to surge higher, a number of dealers said.

Industrial metals prices on the London metal exchange staged an end-week bounce after recent sharp falls in copper and aluminum.

(Reuter)

High Interest Rates Could Throttle Indian Growth, Warns Bank

BOMBAY — Bank lending rates in India are still too high and could throttle economic activities if not brought down to "reasonable" levels, the country's Central Bank warned here Friday.

The Reserve Bank of India said in its annual report that the hardening of lending rates during the fiscal year to March 1996 was a matter of serious concern.

It argued that "with the decline in the inflation rate, the real rates of interest are in double digits which is clearly unsustainable, given the expected growth of the economy."

With inflation at around five percent, demand for bank credit could be forced down and "eventually lead to decline in activity," the RBI said.

"Escalation of interest rates would hurt the financial system and it is essential that banks charge reasonable lending rates that balance the demand for and supply of funds," said the bank.

The RBI noted that banks had eased prime lending rates by 0.5 percentage point recently "but in view of the low inflation rate, further reductions are necessary."

India's largest bank, the state-owned State Bank of India, last week said it was cutting lending rates to top-rated borrowers by 0.5 percentage point to 15.5 percent.

Other banks are expected to follow. But analysts pointed out only a handful of top blue-chip companies get money at 16 percent a year while others have to pay rates of between 19 and 35 percent. (AFP)

WTO Praises Switch in Zambian Economic Policy

GENEVA — Zambia has fundamentally changed its trade and economic policy since late 1991, and reforms are beginning to have positive results, the World Trade Organization said in a report published here Tuesday. But drought and a fall in copper production exacerbated by efficiency problems has meant that the full effect of the changes has yet to be felt, the WTO said.

Inflation has dropped sharply, from 100 percent in 1992 to around 35 percent in 1995, but positive growth was recorded only in 1993.

The WTO noted extensive privatization of state-owned concerns, adding, "Zambia's adjustment efforts have stimulated rapid growth in non-traditional exports and have begun to help Zambia diversify its economy away from its dependence on copper," which accounts for 70 percent of national revenue.

(AFP)

Waigel Says 1997 German Budget Crucial for EMU

BONN — German Finance Minister Theo Waigel, putting his 1997 budget to Parliament last week said there was no alternative to fiscal austerity to boost growth and allow Germany to qualify for European Monetary Union.

At stake is not only Waigel's credibility in the face of a runaway budget deficit but also whether Germany makes the grade for a single European currency.

Next year is the year on which the suitability for Economic and Monetary Union (EMU) will be judged.

Waigel said the government was determined to stick to total spending of 440 billion marks ($290 billion) next year — a fall of 11 billion from this year — and a deficit of 56.5 billion marks.

"We will stick to the 1997 budget figures and we will implement our austerity package. But there are risks from the labor market and so further spending cuts at the federal labor office will be necessary," he said.

"Only he who saves today can invest tomorrow. There is no reasonable economic alternative to consolidating, cutting public spending and reducing the tax burden," he added.

The recent economic slowdown and surge in unemployment to record post-war levels of close to four million, 10 percent of the work force, has blown a hole in Waigel's budget calculations this year and threatens to push the total public deficit up to four percent of gross domestic product (GDP).

The Maastricht Treaty requires countries wishing to join the single currency in 1999 to have a budget deficit not higher than three percent of GDP.

While the treaty allows some flexibility on this level, Waigel insists it must be an upper limit. His budget and austerity package would reduce Germany's deficit to 2.5 percent of GDP — something few now believe.

"We will make adjustments to our draft budget — made necessary by recent economic data — during the parliamentary budget procedure," he said.

(Reuter)



TV Programs

Sunday Evening, September 15

National Network, Channel 1:

12:30 Focus on Family
14:00 News
14:30 Focus on Family
15:00 Weekly Quiz Show
16:00 Kids Corner
16:30 News
17:00 Children's Program
18:00 Scientific Program
18:10 Interlude
18:20 Addiction
18:40 The Move
19:00 News
19:15 Millennium of Persian Literature
19:36 Call to Prayer (Azan)
20:00 Interlude
20:15 Tax, National Contribution
20:45 Review of Day's Major News Stories
21:00 News
21:30 Commercials
21:45 Summer 1375
22:00 Life & Islamic Jurisprudence
21:45 Commercials
22:30 Foreign TV Series
23:00 Sports Roundup

National Network, Channel 2:

13:10 Religious Program
13:30 Nature and Literature
13:45 1st Step in Research
14:00 Iranian TV Series
15:00 Training Wrestling
15:30 Teaching French
16:00 See Birds
17:00 Documentary
17:45 Religious Program
18:00 Children's Program
19:00 Art of Training
19:36 Call to Prayer (Azan)
19:50 Interlude
20:00 Summertime Program
20:30 Scientific & Cultural News
20:45 Religious Program
21:00 Iranian TV Series
22:00 Interesting Scenes
22:30 News
22:45 Nightly Notes
23:00 Night Time Program
23:15 Travelling in Gilan
23:30 Commentary on Holy Qoran

National Network, Channel 3:

16:00 National Anthem of the Islamic Republic of Iran
Recitations From the Holy Qoran
16:15 Freshness
17:00 Religious Program
17:30 Sports Program
18:15 Sport Rainbow
18:45 Interesting Sport Events
19:00 For Tomorrow
19:15 The 2nd Season
19:36 Call to Prayer (Azan)
19:45 Sports News
20:03 Quiz Show
20:45 Poem of the Youth
21:00 Sports Roundup
22:45 News (in English)

National Network, Tehran Channel:

16:30 Local Information
17:00 National Anthem of the Islamic Republic of Iran
Recitations From the Holy Qoran
17:20 World of Wild Animal
17:30 Face to Face
18:00 Advisors
18:30 Tehran's News
18:45 In the City
19:00 Other kind
19:20 Tehran's Districts
19:33 Call to Prayer (Azan)
19:36 Medical Points
20:00 In the City
20:15 Traveling
20:30 Commercial TV
20:45 The Pioneers
21:00 The 5th Look
21:30 Quiz Show
22:00 News
22:15 In the City
22:30 Social Security
22:50 Other Kind
23:15 Traveling
23:30 Memories
24:00 Sights & Sounds

Monday Morning, September 16

National Network, Channel 1:

06:00 National Anthem of the Islamic Republic of Iran
Recitations from the Holy Qoran
06:15 Good Morning Iran
09:10 Children's Program
10:10 Foreign TV Series
11:00 Children Program
12:00 Addiction
12:30 Focus on Family
13:03 Call to Prayer (Azan)

National Network, Channel 2 :

06:00 National Anthem of the Islamic Republic of Iran
Recitations From the Holy Qoran
06:10 Educational, Scientific Documentary
06:40 Nomad's Life
07:00 New Day
07:30 Religious Program
08:00 Training Wrestling
08:30 Teaching French
09:00 Inside & Outside
09:30 Our Wonderful Body
09:45 Simple Tools
10:00 Educational Program
10:15 Kids Corner
11:00 Focus on Living (teaching requirements in life)
11:45 Interlude
12:00 Summertime Program
12:30 Art of Training
13:03 Call to Prayer (Azan)

National Network, Channel 3 :

07:30 National Anthem of the Islamic Republic of Iran
Recitations from the Holy Qoran
07:45 Morning Exercise
08:20 Freshness
09:15 The Tops
09:30 Reflections
10:10 Speak to Me
10:30 The Youth (in Yasouj)
11:00 Family Quiz Show

Japanese Entrepreneur Earns Crust Through Tinned Bread

"When you want it, where you want it, this bread is always ready."

KUROISO, Japan -- An enterprising Japanese baker has cashed in on the craze for preserved food products and is hoping take the world by storm with a novel idea -- canned bread.

Yoshihiko Akimoto believes shoppers across the globe will snap up his invention, a 100 gram tin of raisin brioche, for use by outdoor enthusiasts, the military or survivors of a natural disaster like the devastating Kobe earthquake.

He may be right: the tinned bread is surprisingly good. When its aluminium can is prised open, the brioche is moist and fresh even though it was baked months earlier.

"When you want it, where you want it, this bread is always ready," boasts the label on the Kan Kan Brendo ("The Canned Brand") bread tin.

Although the label advises consumers to eat the bread within four months, it will still be perfectly edible after a year, 43-year-old Akimoto said.

The bread, which has since July been tested and marketed in several stores near this town which is 150 kilometers (93 miles) northwest of Tokyo, is produced in Akimoto's industrial bakery which employs 35 staff.

The bakery, which was founded by Akimoto's father after World War II and which has since become a medium-sized firm with an annual turnover of 250 million yen ($2.3 million), produces 500 cans of bread each day.

But the bakery boss has his sights set high. "I am looking for a partner in Japan and others in overseas countries," he said. "I think there is a potential demand for 30,000 cans per day in Japan alone."

The Japanese public adore new products which, if they make it on the market, can net the producer a fortune in revenues.

The country has been hit by a wave of unusual food items ranging from tinned Camembert cheese, artificial wine to precooked rice, although not all of them have been successful.

The canned Camembert is made from Hokkaido cow's milk, reputedly Japan's best, but has the unfortunate distinction of tasting more like a mix between flour and plaster than like the French cheese on which it is based.

In a bid to take advantage of the growing Japanese wine market, scientists meticulously analyzed the chemical components of the fine wines of France's Bordeaux region and attempted to recreate the famous taste.

But wine stewards do not hesitate to point out that while the wines from the laboratories of Japan's Suntory Ltd. cost as much as their French role models, their taste leaves much to be desired.

Even the pre-cooked canned rice -- the natural product is a staple of the Japanese diet -- has not been commercially successful, despite the added convenience of only having to add water to the product.

But the tinned brioche bread, which currently sells for 300 yen ($2.8) will be far more successful than some of its preserved predecessors on the market, Akimoto insists.

The baker, who intends to broaden his product range to include chocolate, almond and coffee-flavored bread, has been contacted by firms in Hong Kong, Taiwan, South Korea and Israel and hopes to seal deals to produce his loaf under licence.

The baker, who intends to broaden his product range to include chocolate, almond and coffee-flavored bread, has been contacted by firms in Hong Kong, Taiwan, South Korea and Israel and hopes to seal deals to produce his loaf under licence.

"There are many possible applications for this tinned bread: campers, mountain climbers, refugees from a war or a natural catastrophe, military rations, sailors or for stocking up for food shortages," he said.

Akimoto said he had the idea of producing canned bread after the Kobe quake which killed more than 6,000 people in January 1995. He then sent a truck load of his normal bread to the ravaged area five days after the temblor, only to find it could not last more than a few days.

"I think it was the gods who expressed their gratitude to me by giving me this idea," he said. (AFP)

Tourists Account for 12% in China

BEIJING -- The number of foreign tourists visiting China rose 11.76 percent in the first half of 1996 compared to the same period last year, to reach 24.5 million, the *China Daily* reported recently.

Spending by foreign visitors rose 15.26 percent, to $4.61 billion, it said, quoting figures supplied by the China National Tourism Administration (CNTA).

Tourists from Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan accounted for more than 86 percent of the total, or 21.37 million people. Of the remainder, the biggest single national group was from Japan, with more than 700,000 visitors, following by South Korea and the United States.

There was a 34.9-percent surge in South Korean tourists during the first half, reflecting how the predominance of Americans and Japanese has declined over the past decade, the CNTA said.

Another novelty has been the rise in visitors from Russia, who totaled more than 247,000 over the six months, up by 23.3 percent.

Among European nations, Britain ranked first, with 96,200 visitors, followed by Germany (86,000). (AFP)

The Paranormal Doesn't Exist -- Probably

BIRMINGHAM, England -- Mental telepathy, ghosts and telekinesis are probably figments of the imagination, but people still firmly believe in them so there is a chance they could be real, psychologists said recently.

People probably couldn't really bend spoons with their minds, but there were still things that could not be explained, experts from British universities told the British Association for the Advancement of Science's Annual Festival in Birmingham.

"There is no doubt that if PSI (extra-sensory perception or psychokinesis) is real, many aspects of our current scientific world-view will need to be radically overhauled," said Dr. Christopher French of Goldsmith's College in London.

Deborah Delanoy of the University of Edinburgh said Ganzfeld experiments, in which people tried to get information psychically about a remote target, had mystified her.

In the experiments, people are asked to describe a building or scenery at a place identified only by a code and which they had never seen before.

Delanoy said experimenters sometimes got a 33 percent success rate, when mere chance should only get 25 percent.

Susan Blackmore of the University of the West of England in Bristol spent years investigating people who claimed to be able to find water underground with a stick, and looking for ghosts, but had never found any genuine paranormal phenomena.

Most belief in the paranormal stems from an ignorance of science or statistics, the experts said.

Caroline Watt of the University of Edinburgh described the media coverage of a woman who won the New Jersey lottery twice in a short time. "The *New York Times* claimed that the odds of one person winning the top prize twice were about one in 17 trillion. That looks like an amazing coincidence."

But so many people played the lottery, and played it regularly, that "someone, somewhere, someday is almost certain to win twice". The study found a 50-50 chance of a double winner in a seven-year period and a one in 30 chance over four months.

Dr. Richard Wiseman, a former magician and professor of psychology at the University of Hertfordshire, said scientific tests easily debunked frauds.

"The media often report that 'psychics' have helped solve serious crimes," he said. But an experiment he did in 1994 showed that student volunteers were better at linking objects to crimes, and guessing about the crime, than three well-known 'psychic detectives'. (Reuter)

Vet Ordered to Pay for Ruining Parrot's Sex Life

SYDNEY -- A vet was ordered to pay more than 12,000 Australian dollars Friday for endangering the stud career of Nelson, a man's prize parrot.

The New South Wales State District Court ruled that Sydney Avian vet Dr. Ross Perry was negligent and must pay Roger Schlup $12,300 (U.S.$9,700) for breaking the bird's leg.

Judge Terrence Christie said the bird's "possible stud career" was now in doubt.

Nelson is no ordinary parrot: he is a champion blue and gold macaw for whom foreplay requires two healthy legs with which to dance a tortuous jig before intimacy can begin, the court was told here.

"It is necessary for the male and female to stand on a perch next to each other, twist around and align their rear ends," Schlup said in a statement of claim presented to the court.

The court heard that on October 6, 1994, Schlup took Nelson to the vet to treat the bird's broken right leg and that ultimately the vet broke the macaw's other leg and then failed to treat it properly.

Perry had given the nine-month-old bird a general anaesthetic to take some x-rays but, according to the vet, it had a "very wild" return to consciousness, the court heard.

Schlup claimed Nelson flapped and rolled madly about the floor of the vet's surgery at Homebush, in Sydney's west, a claim that was disputed by Perry.

The court heard that the vet elected not to give the bird an anaesthetic while he performed several more x-rays and then used "excessive force" to restrain him during the procedure.

Schlup, who said he was very close to Nelson, said he was unable to watch and left the room.

"As a result of the negligent treatment, Nelson has been left with a... significant deformity of the left leg, a loss of mobility and loss of power and strength and consequent inability to mate," Schlup told the court.

The court was told macaws are monogamous and mate for life. Given this, and Nelson's lame leg, Schlup said he now believes it is a waste of time to invest in a female to partner his prize bird.

He had paid $9,500 for Nelson in the knowledge that the bird could father six to 10 offspring a year of equal value.

The $12,300 awarded to Schlup included $2,500 for "inconvenience and stress".

Outside the court schlup spoke of his anguish over the bird's condition.

"Nelson is very weak on his leg. I see it every day when he steps or walks," Schlup told reporters.

"That, I suppose, is the heart-breaking part, having to see a bird suffer." (AFP)

Pollutants Lower Babies' Intelligence

BOSTON — Exposing a foetus to industrial pollutants found in contaminated fish can significantly reduce a child's intelligence, according to a new U.S. study.

Researchers Joseph and Sandra Jacobson of Wayne State University in Detroit also said the impact on intelligence did not fade with time, according to their study which was due to appear in Thursday's *New England Journal of Medicine*.

The researchers said the study built on earlier research showing that pre-birth exposure to PCBs, which stands for a class of chemicals known as polychlorinated byphenyls, can affect brain development. They found that exposed infants and four-year-olds, for example, had poorer short-term memory.

PCB exposure was assessed by testing blood taken from umbilical cords at birth, and by subsequent blood tests. Samples of the mother's milk were also tested for the industrial chemicals, which have been banned in the United States and most Western nations since the 1970s.

Most of the PCB exposure came from the mother eating PCB-tainted fish from Lake Michigan, which was polluted following decades of shipping, industrial waste and agricultural runoff.

The study also looked at the mental abilities of those children when they were about 11-years-old.

The Jacobsons found that the typical intelligence quotient in the group with the highest exposure to PCBs was six points lower than for the children in the other four groups. Those children also had poorer verbal and word comprehension scores, and it was easier to distract them.

"The most highly exposed children were more than three times as likely to perform poorly in terms of the scores for full-scale IQ, verbal comprehension, and freedom from distractibility," the researchers reported.

In addition, those children were "more than twice as likely to be at least two years behind in reading comprehension."

The intellectual problems were subtle and detectable only in testing, the Jacobsons said. "There was no evidence of gross intellectual impairment among the children we studied."

The drop in IQ, they said, was equivalent to what has been seen in children exposed to low levels of lead.

Although many of the babies received extra exposure to PCBs during breast feeding, the Jacobsons' analysis found that the amount of PCB-tainted breast milk a baby received did not seem to affect the intelligence score.

(Reuter)

New Method for Bladder Control Promising

WASHINGTON — A new treatment method for men who undergo prostate surgery could reduce bladder control problems by 70 percent, according to a study conducted at Washington University in St Louis, Missouri.

Up to 30 percent of men who undergo prostate surgery experience bladder control problems, but only 20 percent of men treated with traditional methods — including injections of collagen through the urethra — show improvement.

In the new treatment developed by Dr. Carl Klutke of the Washington University School of Medicine, collagen is injected through the skin of the lower abdomen into the bladder, sealing the urethra.

The method stops bladder control problems the same way "a washer stops a leaky faucet," said Klutke, who tested his treatment on 20 men who had undergone prostate operations. *(AFP)*

Wonder Gas May Ease Ills From Impotence to Angina

BIRMINGHAM, England — A gas which is a toxic ingredient of acid rain is being dubbed a "wonder molecule" by scientists who believe it may offer help to sufferers of everything from impotence to arthritis and angina.

Professor Salvador Moncada told Britain's annual science festival recently that researchers were only just learning how to harness the "wonder molecule" — nitric oxide gas — after a research breakthrough showed the body produced it naturally.

Nitric oxide is pumped out of vehicle exhausts, reacting with oxygen in the air to form nitrous oxide, a toxic brown gas which attacks the lungs and skin.

But pioneering research over the last decade has shown that cells in the body also produce the gas, which plays a key and until recently unsuspected role in controlling blood flows.

The gas dilates blood vessels, regulating blood pressure. It also plays a key role in the brain, potentially explaining key aspects of memory, and in the gastrointestinal tract.

Moncada says a better understanding of how the doctors can use the gas could eventually provide remedies for angina and hypertension, premature delivery in childbirth, inflammatory diseases like arthritis, and even irritable bowel syndrome.

But Moncada, from University College, London, said the first application will be for septic shock, when the body is overwhelmed by infection — particularly after surgical procedures — and blood pressure collapses, often fatally.

In septic shock, excessive amounts of nitric oxide is produced. But trials in three London hospitals which could be completed by the end of this year show that blood pressure can be stabilized by blocking its production.

With around 200,000 people a year suffering septic shock in the United States and Europe alone — of whom 40 percent or more die — Moncada said the trial offers hope of combating what he called "the nightmare of any clinician (doctor)".

Treatments involving the gas are also being tested as a cure for male impotence, after the discovery that nitric oxide is crucial for an erection, Moncada said.

The irony in current research is that treatments using nitric oxide have been in use for over a century, but doctors did not understand the real reason why they worked.

Amyl nitrate and nitroglycerine, used to treat angina, both rely on their transformation to nitric oxide in the body, a fact only discovered in recent years.

But the body rapidly builds up a tolerance for nitroglycerine, and new understanding of how nitric oxide works could provide better drugs, Moncada said.

"That's the way science goes," he added. "You find something, then you don't understand how you pretended to understand something, and then it becomes a natural part of the present explanation of things...but this is really amazing."

(Reuter)

Low Cholesterol May Lead to Depression, Suicide

LONDON — Low levels of blood cholesterol, generally seen as beneficial in warding off heart disease, may in fact lead to depression and suicide, researchers said.

Dr mahmoud Zureik from the National Institute of Health and Medical Research in Paris and colleagues studied more than 6,000 working men whose cholesterol levels were monitored over 17 years.

They discovered that 32 of them had killed themselves and the risk of suicide was higher in men with low levels of Cholesterol and in those whose cholesterol went down over time.

"Both low serum cholesterol concentration and declining cholesterol concentration were associated with increased risk of death from suicide in men," they said in a paper published in the British Medical Journal.

Another study by Dr Barbara Ploeckinger of the University of Vienna and colleagues looked at 20 pregnant women.

The sudden fall in blood fats that occurs after birth was thought to provide a means of measuring the relationship between those fats and the mothers' mood.

They found "a significant correlation between decrease in cholesterol and depressive symptoms" after the mothers had given birth.

But both studies said it could not be ruled out that other factors may have affected their results, suggesting that the relationship between low cholesterol and suicide and depression is still open to debate.

(Reuter)

TODAY IN HISTORY

1590 - Giovanni Battista, son of Elector Palatine, signs treaty with French Huguenots to bring army of 156,000 German and Swiss mercenaries into France.

1777 - Polish count Casimir Pulaski is commissioned major general in American revolutionary army.

1821 - Guatemala is declared independent of Spain and aligns itself with Mexico.

1882 - British forces occupy Cairo, Arab Pasha surrenders and is banished to Ceylon.

1916 - British army uses tanks for first time on western front in World War I.

1919 - China terminates its war with Germany.

1935 - Nuremberg laws outlaw Jews and make Swastika official flag of Germany.

1938 - British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain visits Germany's Adolf Hitler at Berchtesgaden where Hitler states his determination to annex Sudetenland on principle of self-determination.

1942 - German armies attack Russian city of Stalingrad in World War II.

1946 - People's Republic is formed in Bulgaria after referendum rejects monarchy.

1990 - Hungry Iraqi soldiers occupying Kuwait slaughter and cook animals in Kuwait City zoo. President de Klerk acknowledges "hidden hand" in South Africa's black-on-black violence.

1991 - Jets, tanks and gunboats of the Yugoslav federal army hammer Croatian forces as air-raid sirens wail for the first time in Zagreb.

1993 - Hijackers brandishing grenades force a Russian jetliner with 52 people aboard to land in Norway, then surrender to police asking for political asylum.

1994 - Saudi security forces crack down on fundamentalists, arresting scores.

THOUGHT

IN every real man a child is hidden that wants to play.

(Priendrich Nietzsche German philosopher)

PRAYER

Noon	12:58
Evening	19:25
Dawn (tomorrow)	5:18
Sunrise (tomorrow)	6:51

SCRABBLE® BRAND GRAMS

T1	L1	S1	I1	E1	E1	N1		RACK 1
Q10	T1	E1	R1	U1	A1	P3	4th Letter Triple	RACK 2
D2	E1	I1	E1	R1	S1	R1	3rd Letter Double	RACK 3
A1	E1	O1	S1	C3	A1	R1		RACK 4

PAR SCORE 100-110

by JUDD

FOUR RACK TOTAL ____

TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2- to 7- letter word from the letters in each row. To total points of your words, use scoring directions to right of each row. 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words can be found in OSW Official Scrabble Words (Chambers). JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORROW

1-10-95

Here is the solution to Thursday's Scrabble

SCRABBLE BRAND GRAMS SOLUTION BY JUDD

C3	R1	O1	S1	S1	L1	Y4	RACK 1 =	74
D2	E1	S1	P3	O1	I1	L1	RACK 2 =	63
E1	N1	R1	I1	C3	H4		RACK 3 =	11
L1	E1	S1	S1	E1	N1		RACK 4 =	6

PAR SCORE 95-105 JUDD'S TOTAL 154

1-9-95





THE HOUSE OF LIGHT

September 7 marks anniversary of the epic uprising of the nation in 1978, the day the late Imam Khomeini's issued his order on the establishment of the institute and anniversary of foundation of the Institute for Compilation and Publication of Imam Khomeini's Works.

The blessings of Imam Khomeini's uprising does not confine in overthrowing the tyrant regime of Shah and establishing Islamic Republic system and cutting off the plunder hands of America and the West from the oil reserves and natural treasures of the Islamic nation of Iran.

Imam Khomeini's benedictory works are so great and vast, as his ideology and objectives, that cannot be restricted within borders and certain nationalities. The ever-growing seed of the uprising, seeded in the hearts of millions of oppressed Muslims and justice-seekers of the world is still ripening and the guiding light he has endowed in the spirit of his followers is eternal.

Eight years after the demise of great founder of the Islamic Revolution, Imam Khomeini, the world present testifies the right path he has chosen and the message he has rendered. The number of truth-seekers around the world, who consider Imam Khomeini as an epitome of a perfect leader is growing — even in the heart of the blasphemous states. This is what the Grand Leader of the Islamic Republic said in the day of funeral and demise of Imam Khomeini: "Imam Khomeini is an eternal truth."

Today, though Imam Khomeini is not with us, his priceless heritage is wide open in front of us: a heritage which is not like topless palaces of global rulers, not material wealth or embellishments, but the principles and ideologies pictured vividly in his everlasting words and works. The fact may easily be perceived from the adobe and rental houses of Jamaran, from the small *Hosseiniyeh* (Masque) but the center of Imam's Islamic activities.

The Institute for Compilation and Publication of Imam Khomeini's works, which is a cultural inheritor of the great leader's son, is proud to say that during the past eight years it has spared no effort to compile and publish hundreds of thousands of copies of Imam Khomeini's works with the assistance of cultural organizations and press media. Thus, it has taken giant strides to picture and introduce powerful presence of Imam Khomeini's ideology and thinkings in an Islamic society both in and out of the country.

* Objectives of the Institute

The Institute for Compilation and Publication of Imam Khomeini's works, was set up on September 7, 1988 by the endeavors of Hojjatoleslam Haj Seyed Ahmad Khomeini, pursuant to the great leader's order. The institute has been under the supervision of Imam's son for six years, during which it has rendered valuable services to the Islamic society. At present, under the custodianship of Imam Khomeini's grandson, Hojjatoleslam Haj Seyed Hassan Khomeini, the institute is extending its ever-developing activities in the departments of International Affairs, Research Affairs, Arts Affairs, Propagating and Publication, Plan and Project along with representative offices, etc.

The most important objectives of the institute, according to the "Law of Ways of Protecting and Preserving Imam Khomeini's Works" ratified on November 4, 1989 by the Islamic Consultative Assembly are as follows:



1- Compiling all Imam Khomeini's documents and works and all other documents on his personality, life, combats and thinking either written or produced by the authors and artists in the country or abroad.

2- Protecting and preserving the said works and documents forever, applying suitable methods, to be used as the documents of the Islamic Revolution for the next generations.

3- Studying and researching the works to compile history of the Islamic Revolution and Imam Khomeini's life story along with compilation, translation and preparing the works for publication.

4- Publishing collection of works in different forms in and out of the country and introducing and developing Imam Khomeini's thinking and ideology in throughout the world with the collaboration of affiliated organizations and lovers of Imam.

5- Constant supervision of what is produced on Imam Khomeini by the writers or artists; restraining any pervert in Imam's words, works and documents; rendering services and information to the interested public as an official center for compilation and preservation of Imam Khomeini's works.

* Reports and Achievements

In spite of obstacles and delayed efficiency of cultural activities, the Institute for Compilation and Publication of Imam Khomeini's Works, during the past eight years, has submitted a successful performance report. Such an achievement was accomplished by the blessed order of Imam Khomeini, the Grand Leader's guidelines, careful supervision of Imam Khomeini's son and grandson, compassionate superintendency of Hojjatoleslam Ansari, and infatigueable efforts of each of the true employees of this religious institute.

To familiarize dear readers and researchers with the scope and type of activities, we refer to the following:

* Compiling Precious Treasury of Works

Identification and compilation of over 4,000 handwritings, letters, telegraphs, decrees, religious rights, written forms of messages, tape-recorded or videotaped messages and interviews of Imam Khomeini and thousands of questions from Imam's office by legal advice seekers, has been among the important objectives of this institute that have created a treasury of documents.

— Subject classification and preserving almost one million letters and thousands of scrolls from all over the country and the farthest corners of the world, dealing with different issues as addressed to Imam Khomeini.

— Compiling writing slips from and indexing over 12,000 copies of Imam's documents on his combats as registered in the files of SAVAK (former State Information and Intelligence Organization), police offices, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and documents of American Den of Spies. The original written and copied works of Imam Khomeini along with identification and compilation of hundreds of books in Farsi or other languages on the his life and stands have all been printed.

— Working out, collection and publication of over 3713 visits of Imam with all walks of life in two volumes entitled "In the Presence of Light".

— Identification and compilation of over 5,000 pieces of hymns composed and sung on the life, combats and demise of Imam Khomeaini.



— Preserving Imam Khomeini's books and private belongings which picture his simple life and high spirit. Also preserving buildings and places related to Imam's life including his birthplace in Khomein, his domicile in Qom, his arrest room in Eshrat-Abad barracks, his place in Jamaran *Hosseiniyeh* (Mosque) and Jamaran area, etc. each of which reminds unforgettable and epic memoirs on the life of Imam Khomeini, the true servant of God.

— Preparing and creating an archive with over 70,000 subject indexes of Imam Khomeini's guidelines and an archive with over 6,000 identification tags on articles and the reports recorded in the press(further explanation in Magazine and Report Section).

— Identification and compilation of over 100 volumes accounts of Imam Khomeini's *fiqh* (principles of Islamic jurisprudence), fundamental dogmas, philosophy and Islamic ethics written by his disciples.

* Subject Classification and Publication of Imam's Works

The important task of indexing and preparing subject flashcards of all Imam's general works has been accomplished by a group of human sciences experts along with some scholars from theological schools and universities in the institute. The outcome is over 70,000 subject matter flashcards which give instant access to the desired material for the use of researchers. The flashcards are published separately based on the subject matter, or under special titles in a collection entitled Tebyan (exposition). Publication of the rest is underway.

Accomplishing descriptive sourcing plan of Imam in the research section of the institute is another achievement starting from the very beginning (before 60s) until 1991. The task resulted in identification and working out of comprehensive information from over 6,000 articles, reports, interviews and pieces of writings published in the press, Farsi magazines, etc. all of which are supposed to be published in several volumes.



* Holding Congresses and Scientific Gatherings

Getting to know doctrines, ideas and thinking of Imam Khomeini deeper and introducing them in the theological schools and universities, the Institute for Compilation and Publication of Imam Khomeini's Works besides vast cooperation with the seminars and scientific assemblies held by different centers. So far, five scientific congresses have been held by this institute, including the First Congress on Studying Economic Thinking of Imam Khomeini held in Tehran University in 1992, Congress on Studying Imam Khomeini's Thinking and Educational Works held in May-June 1994, First International Congress on Imam Khomeini and the Culture of Ashura held in Haj and Pilgrimage Organization in 1995, Second International Congress on Imam Khomeini and the Culture of Ashura held in May-June 1996, and the Great Congress on Imam Khomeini's *fiqh* (jurisprudence) dogma (the Roles of Time and Place) held in Feb.-Mar. 1995 in Qom Theological School. Hundreds of thinkers from in and out of country attended the



Institute for Compilation and Publication of Imam Khomeini's Works

ences to exchange views and debate vis-a-vis. The institute has reflected different viewpoints in the press, compiled and rendered over 1235 articles and scientific interviews, a selection of which, consisting 25 books has been published and a few others are under publication. Furthermore, a selection of article abstracts in English and Arabic has been translated and published.

Executive and research activities for holding three other congresses have also been started in this institute, including: Congress on Imam Khomeini's *figh* dogma (state jurisprudence), Congress on Imam Khomeini and Revival of Religious Thinking in Today's World, and Congress on Martyr Ayatollah Seyed Mostafa Khomeini's Scientific and Political Services.

The institute also intends to hold a great congress simultaneous with the 100th birth anniversary of Imam Khomeini in and out of country with the cooperation of scientific and cultural centers.

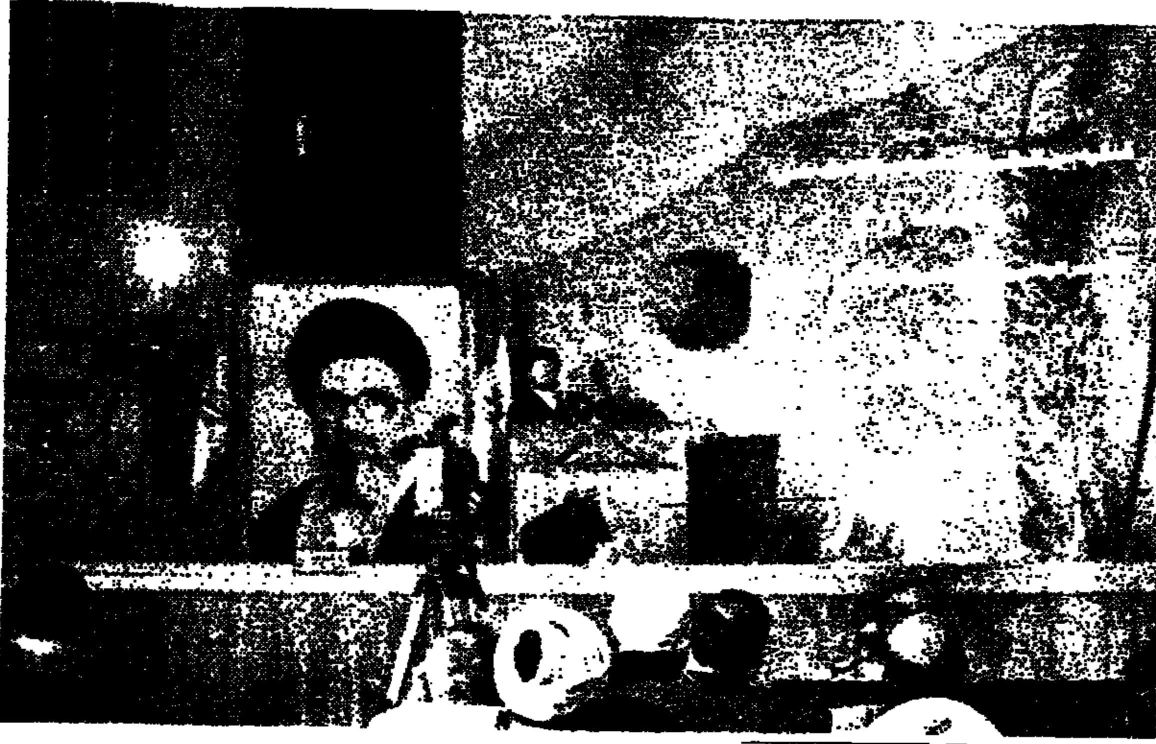
* University Theses

The rightfulness of Imam Khomeini's views and doctrines in various political, social and cultural issues along with his success in applying principles and views in adopting Islamic Republic policies and the cornerstones of the Islamic system of governing is well admitted by many of theoricians around the world. No doubt, the duration of Islamic Republic successes will be assured in case these principles and views be known and acted upon. Therefore, bringing up Imam's views and morals in scientific centers and trying to identify and offer theories in conformity with his views is a mighty responsibility which are workable only through constant researches in theological schools and universities. Giving guidelines to the university students and researchers in picking up Imam's views and stands on different issues as their theses in different MA and PhD majoring courses of the human sciences has been an effective move in this regard. So far, rendering direct and indirect services, the has had almost 40 theses defended.

In this regard the plan "*Tariq-e Javid*" (eternal path) has been taken up by the institute and University Jihad Department to provide the aforesaid objective and promote it in university centers.

* Establishing Imam Khomeini and Islamic Republic Research Center

To create research centers to study Imam Khomeini's views and thinking, and training dutiful personnel familiar with the views and principles of Imam Khomeini, the Institute for Compilation and Publication of Imam Khomeini's Works, received legal approval from Supreme Council of Cultural Revolution, to establish Imam Khomeini Research Center in the current Iranian year. During the next few months the center, located opposite Tehran University, will accept students for MA courses. God-willing, during the upcoming years, while transforming the center to a research faculty and setting up PhD courses, Imam Khomeini Research Center will extend its activities in at least 9 specialized courses in three research centers.



* The Institute's International Affairs and Translation

To meet the needs of ever-increasing Muslims and truth seekers around the world on Imam Khomeini's thinking and principles, cooperation with Islamic scientific and cultural centers overseas, Islamic Republic cultural attaches and political representatives abroad, I.R.I.B. Overseas Affairs, and translation of Imam Khomeini's works, International Affairs Office of the institute was set up in 1989.

Besides fulfilling the aforesaid needs, the institute has so far translated and published 72 works in different languages (some in 13 languages) in 330,000 copies.

Representative Office of the institute in the subcontinent, established in Karachi in 1989, has translated and published a great deal of Imam Khomeini's works in Urdu. Also pursuant to the head of International Affairs' will, Imam Khomeini Library and Theological school have been erected in Karachi.

As it was referred at the beginning, the eternal works of Imam Khomeini, the founder of new Islamic civilization do not confine in his writings. The spiritual system of Islamic Republic is a manifestation of his palpable blessing. His immune principles and dogma as priority of religion, objectivity of politics and religion, combating oppression, defending the oppressed, independence, freedom and justice-seeking, efforts to dominate monotheism throughout the world, general mobilization and formation of 20-million army along with hundreds of other principles recorded in his last will all and all are unparalleled heritage of that great man which should be preserved by his followers and disciples.

Promotion of Qoranic principles by *Velayat-e Fagih* (Islamic jurisdiction) and creation of religious system have been a century-long achievement of Imam Khomeini's mighty jihad.

And now, endless thanks to The Almighty that we witness his followers and his kin obeying wholeheartedly and swearing allegiance to his right successor.

* Collection of Memoirs Section

One of the most common ways to introduce the elite's conducts, thoughts and ideologies is writing memoir. The invaluable treasure and unrecorded history hidden in the hearts of Islamic Revolution forerunners can be the mirror of documentary history of Revolution.

To form the memoirs section, the institute has taken major steps toward collecting the memoirs of Imam's aides, efficient figures, ex-POWs and combatants so that over 270 tape-recorded (some on videotapes) interviews forming 480 hours and over 14,000 pages have been gathered.

In addition to these records, the plan on 'Verbal History of Imam's Life' according to modern scientific methods is underway. After classifying the subjects and editing the memoirs, the categorized collections of memoirs will be published. Meanwhile, the institute intends to transform the memoirs into short and long stories in the future.

* Institute's Arts Affairs

The institute is also active in the fields of forming archives, compiling and reproducing the photos, films, designs, paintings, calligraphy and other artistic works on Imam Khomeini (RA). In addition to making TV movies, it supports the devoted filmmakers and movie-producers who have in mind to produce their films on Imam's socio-political personality, life and thoughts. The other tasks which the institute's arts section deals with are: To establish and manage of museums and art galleries, design the artistic and cultural public boards on the Grand Leader's guidances and portraits installed in different cities' street and squares. To exemplify some of them, the institute has collected a large number of films as well as videotapes of Imam's lectures and visits, and over 300 hours of the sad demise ceremony and different domestic and overseas meetings along with around 7,000 photo frames.

The section has held several contests and displayed the artistic works in its annual exhibitions adjacent to Imam Khomeini mausoleum and other places. It has also established Imam Khomeini Art Gallery in Isfahan Province, made preparations for setting up Imam Art Gallery next to Jamaran *Hosseiniyeh* (mosque), implemented the construction operations of the grand museum named 'Imam, Martyrs and Islamic Revolution' beside Imam's mausoleum, produced 34 short and long documentary, reporting and serial films at 1,760 minutes of which some have been subtitled or dubbed into Arabic English, Urdu and Turkish languages and also produced some hymns recorded on cassettes.

Under Islamic Consultative Assembly's ratification, the Institute for Compilation and Publication of Imam Khomeini's Works was authorized to supervise the publication of subjects on Imam including written and pictorial works.

In addition to above-mentioned activities, the institute evaluates and verifies the dispatched subjects, removes their deficiencies, guides the writers, renders information and services to the interested, and issues the license in the shortest time.

The institute by itself or thanks to cooperation of different organization, institutes and countless followers of Imam succeeded to be active in the following fields:

To have in contact with cultural centers, cooperate with Ministry of Culture and Higher Education and Ministry of Education in order to publish Imam Khomeini's guidances in school books, hold competitions for the general public, schoolchildren and university students, hold glorious commemoration ceremony of Imam Khomeini's sad demise, distribute hundreds of thousand posters and pamphlets containing Imam's and the Grand Leader's guidances, have a constant presence at international book fairs in Tehran, New Delhi, Beirut and Bosnia-Herzegovina, and hold domestic expositions in Tehran and other cities.

The institute's computer network both meets the great needs of the institute and stores on its exclusive software a collection of Imam Khomeini's socio-political works including the edited complete series *Sahifeh Noor* (book of light), about 6 volumes of Imam's unpublished lectures, letters and ordinances along with 10 volumes of his writings under the name of *Cheshmeh Khorshid* (source of light). It has the capabilities of quick compound and conditional word and subject searching. The institute is ready to render services to the researchers and [illegible]

In 1991, the institute's representative office located at Qom was set up through a number of theological school researchers' membership and the great erudite's cooperation. It takes full responsibility for researching, checking and reviving Imam Khomeini's scientific works on *figh* (jurisprudence), theology, philosophy and mysticism in order to prepare the aforesaid works for printing and publishing. The office also has the duty of publishing Imam's scientific account of which over 100 volumes have been compiled and its other job is to hold specialized theological congresses.

The representative office of institute in Isfahan has started its activities since 1994 in the fields of getting in touch with cultural centers, universities and dedicated artists of Isfahan Province. Besides, it manages the provincial Imam Art Gallery and distributes his works in Isfahan and neighboring provinces.

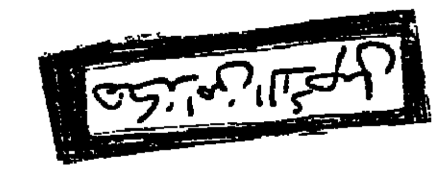
To meet the ever-increasing needs of printing and publishing affairs of the Institute for Compilation and Publication of Imam Khomeini's Works, an institute under the name of 'Orouj Publications' with full facilities such as typesetting, lithography and a stand for Imam's works was set up opposite Tehran University, Enqelab Ave. Orouj institute is ready to publish the authors' compiled hand-written poetic and prose works on life, thoughts and works of Imam.

Orouj arts and cultural institute affiliated to the Institute for Compilation and Publication of Imam Khomeini's Works with cinema and TV film-production equipment, compiles the scenarios, produces films on Imam Khomeini and also encourages and supports the devout filmmakers and artists in this regard and renders its services.

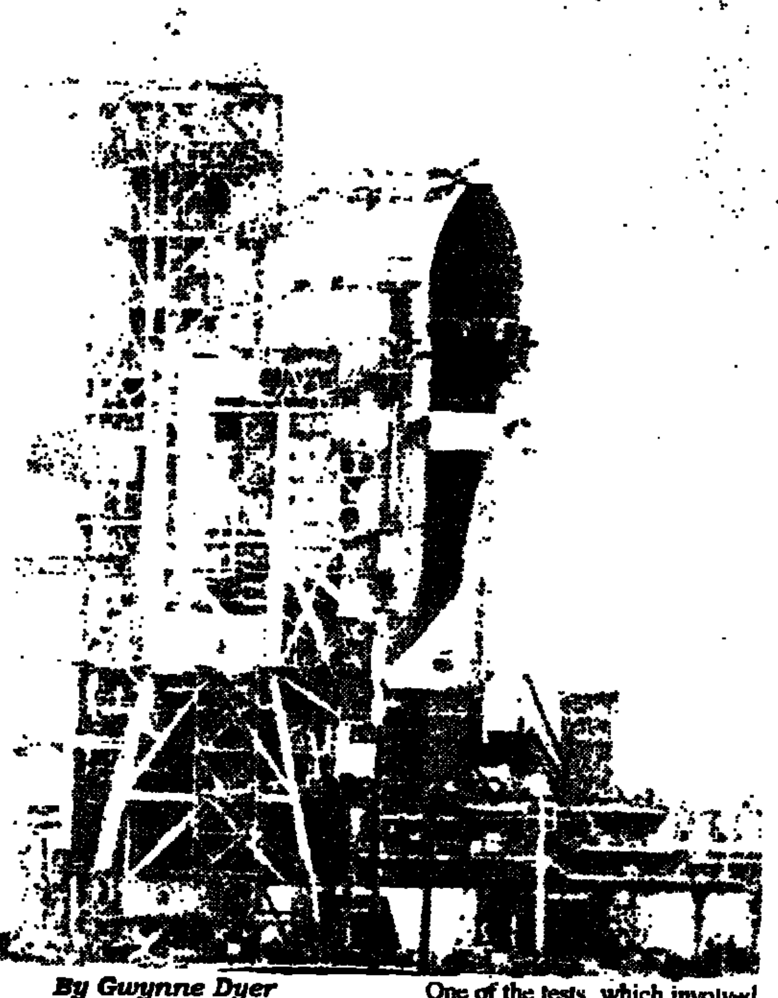


Hozour is the cultural, arts, political and social magazine of the Institute for Compilation and Publication of Imam Khomeini's Works which includes the round tables, interviews with Iranian and foreign intellectuals on Imam's high-minded thoughts, articles, literature and arts, introducing and criticizing the books, news and letters. So far, 15 copies in 5,000 pages have been published.

Publications section of the Institute for Compilation and Publication of Imam Khomeini's Works, in spite of the existing shortcomings in printing and publication systems prevalent in the country, has succeeded to print and distribute over 125 copies in Farsi. The publications section also has translated, published and distributed 70 works in over 1,996,000 copies.



Onward to Mars?



By Gwynne Dyer

"The climate is good for solar system exploration," said Glenn Carle, chief of the solar system exploration branch at the NASA-Ames Research Center in California. And then, slipping into the Columbus-and-queen Isabella analogy that comes easily to people working in space exploration, he added: "It seems the queen has given us new ships."

Trouble is, he said it back in 1988, and he was only talking about unmanned planetary probes, not real spaceships. The unmanned probes sent out by NASA (the U.S. National Aeronautics and Space Administration) have produced some spectacular fly-by photographs of our neighboring planets since then, but there has been nothing by way of deep-space exploration by actual human beings since the Apollo moon program was shut down, three trips short of the number originally planned, in 1972.

So will the recent announcement that primitive life once existed on Mars by a team of nine NASA-backed scientists finally make the queen give them some real ships to go to Mars in? And is that why NASA gave the announcement such huge publicity?

Second question first: Of course it is. NASA's business is space exploration, and if it comes across some scientific hypothesis that it believes will persuade the public to pay for the ships, it will back it hard. Nothing illegitimate there, and the scientists involved in the study are all people of high reputation who would not shade their conclusions to suit their sponsor.

More interesting, perhaps, is how the space agency tripped over this particular strategy for drumming up support. After all, the two unmanned Viking spacecraft that landed on Mars in 1976 carried experimental packages to search for signs of microbial life in the Martian soil — and the results were negative.

But ten years later, in 1986, a NASA review conference on the Viking experiments (which got little publicity at the time) was told that the 1976 experiments HAD very probably found Martian micro-organisms in the soil samples tested by the robot mini-labs.

One of the tests, which involved giving the soil nutrients containing a radioactive isotope that would show up in any gases given off by micro-organisms that took up the nutrients, actually gave a positive result. But the other experiment, which searched for organic debris in the Martian soil, was negative. So the original conclusion was that there was probably not life on Mars.

In 1979, however, Dr. K. Bieman demonstrated that soil from the Antarctic (which does contain micro-organisms) produces almost indentical results to those of the second, negative test. In the extreme conditions of the Antarctic (or of Mars) life ticks over so slowly that there is little by way of organic debris in the soil.

In 1981, Dr. G.V. Levin and Dr. P.A. Straat announced that all their efforts to reproduce the positive results of the nutrient experiment using inorganic materials had failed: To get the results witnessed on Mars, micro-organisms had to be present in the soil.

And at the 1986 review conference Levin and Straat added that photographs of a Martian rock taken some years apart by one of the Viking lander cameras showed changing patterns of greenish patches strongly reminiscent of lichen on earthly rocks.

So NASA had a good case for life on Mars — and by the mid-80s cultural shifts and rising ecological awareness were producing a public audience much likelier to be interested in the existence of life elsewhere in the universe.

The so-called 'Mars Underground' at the agency, an informal network of people who never accepted the abandonment of NASA's original ambitions for manned interplanetary exploration, went looking for more evidence about extraterrestrial life that would satisfy a doubtful public. It looks like they have found it in the interior of an ancient rock knocked loose from Mars by an asteroid collision 15 million years ago that eventually fell in Antarctica.

So will they get their ships at last? Maybe. Space activity has survived the collapse of its original stimulus, the Cold War, and a new U.S. space station and cost-efficient second-generation space shuttles are due to be ready within five or six years.

That would make a manned Mars expedition much more feasible and affordable — and late 20th-century environmental concerns make any investigation of the early origins and eventual fate of other ecospheres a relatively easy sell. We have lived our whole history with only one example, and Mars could be a whole second example of how an ecosphere evolves.

There are no guarantees in U.S. politics, but for a rough gauge of the fluctuations in political support for space exploration in Washington over time, consider what the hard-headed political survivalists in the White House have said about it.

In 1961, John F. Kennedy was unequivocal: The United States "must commit itself to achieving the goal, before the decade is out of landing a man on the moon and returning him safely to the earth."

A quarter-century later, in the depths of the Reagan era, Michael Collins, who piloted the Orbiter module on that first moon-landing flight in 1969, could only play in for laughs: "I think that in today's climate (Kennedy) would have to say, 'I think we ought to dedicate ourselves to the goal of perhaps considering appointing a commission, after due deliberation with the Congress, of investigating the feasibility of certain long-range goals for the space program, perhaps even including a mission to Mars'."

1996 is a more cautious time than 1961, and more financially strapped, too, but it has recovered from the nadir of the mid-80s. What President Bill Clinton said was, for him, quivering on the brink of unequivocal: "The American space program will put its full intellectual power and technological prowess behind the search for further evidence of life on Mars."

Is that a promise to actually go there? No. But it's considerably batter than what NASA has been used to hearing.

New Trends and Variations Appear for Home PCs

NEW YORK — Paced by advances in chip design, personal computer makers are offering faster machines and lowering the prices of existing models about every six months.

But several new trends will also appear in the next couple of years, including some that will make the public broaden its perception of computing.

PCs themselves will do more things. Already, Gateway 2000 sells a $4,000 system with a 31-inch (77.5-centimeter) monitor that can also serve as a television. And Acer includes a phone with its newest models while IBM has controls built into its home PCs for lights and other appliances.

"The computer as we know it will not go away but there will be an entire new generation of computer machines dedicated to specific things. They're going to take all different shapes and they'll cost a lot less because they'll do one thing well."

Meanwhile, variations of the all-purpose PC, including devices that just do one or two things like browsing the World Wide Web or ordering a pizza, will become more common.

"The computer as we know it will not go away but there will be an entire new generation of computer machines dedicated to specific things," said Robin Raskin, editor-in-chief of *Family PC Magazine*. "They're going to take all different shapes and they'll cost a lot less because they'll do one thing well."

For PC makers, developing new kinds of machines is important to maintain growth and market share — particularly since sales growth of traditional PCs has been faster overseas than in the United States, a trend expected to continue as the U.S. market reaches saturation.

A look at what consumers can expect in PCs over the next two years:

The Inside Stuff

The rhythm of the computer industry is provided by engineers who keep figuring out how to design and manufacture chips that contain twice as many circuits as the ones they produced two years earlier.

This phenomenon has gone on since the first chip that could be mass-produced was created in 1959. Of course, the process becomes more wondrous each time it happens because the starting point is much higher.

From 1996 to 1998, the most popularly-priced PC, ranging from $1,000 to $2,000, will move from a main chip with about 3 million circuits to one with about 6 million.

Two years ago, the chips that powered PCs costing $1,000 to $2,000 were from the last generations of the Intel 486 family and, in Apple Macintosh, the Motorola 68000-series. Their fastest speed was 66 megahertz (MHz).

Today's PCs are run by Intel's Pentium chips at 133 MHz, while Macintosh machines have PowerPC chips that run at 120 MHz.

"There is the need here for not only changes in styling but changes in the way that functions are packaged."

More expensive models have Intel chips that run at 200 MHz and PowerPC chips at 225 MHz.

In 1998, the typical PC considered by a consumer will have a new generation Pentium Pro or PowerPC chips running around 300 MHz, with the most expensive models run by chips at about 450 MHz.

During the past two years, the price and efficiency of PC hard drives and CD-ROM drives advanced at an even faster pace than microprocessors.

By 1998, hard drives will typically hold 3 to 4 gigabytes of data, up from 1 to 2 gigabytes now. And CD-ROM drives will have been replaced by digital video disk drives (DVDs), which will run today's CDs and also the new similar-looking DVD that can hold seven to 14 times as much data, enough for a full-length movie or all of Beethoven's nine symphonies.

But modem speeds, which have advanced from 9,600 bits per second (bps) two years ago to 28,800 now, will not experience the same kind of jump by 1998, simply because of the physical limits of telephone lines. Modems are now coming out at 33,600 bps and engineers will work on smaller gains. Companies are also working on software techniques to squeeze more data through an existing phone line.

In Software

Many innovations in software are being driven by the Internet as people try to integrate the data they work with on their PC with the broader public network. New game programs, for instance, will allow users to play opponents through the Internet.

Microsoft Corp.'s Windows and Apple's Macintosh operating systems are being improved to bridge the gap between data inside and outside the PC — eliminating, for example, the distinction a user finds between working with a word processor and a Web browser. Apple has recently demonstrated significant advances in manipulating data inside a machine and some of that work will available to consumers by 1998.

The appearance of Apple's main operating program, which was the first to use symbols and point-and-click commands, will also change to reflect the new capabilities.

New Designs

PCs now come in colors like black, dark green and dark purple instead of just beige. By 1998, some models may be trimmed in wood and laptops will have handles molded into the cases to make the machines more portable.

Handheld computers such as U.S. Robotics' Palm Pilot and Apple's Newton will also be reshaped and take on new functions.

"There is the need here for not only changes in styling but changes in the way that functions are packaged," said Jose Garcia, vice president and general manager of consumer desktop systems at IBM.

His company in a few weeks will unveil a PC in which the disk and CD-ROM drives are in a unit at desktop level while the guts of the machine are stored elsewhere.

Flat Panels

Although unlikely to make a difference to consumers by 1998, a growing trend in computer sales to businesses is the replacement of bulky computer monitors with sleek flat-panel screens, similar to those in laptops. They use less energy and require less cooling.

The New York Stock Exchange has replaced the monitors that hang above trading specialists with flat panels. Compaq uses a flat-panel

(Contd on Pg.14)

Toshiba to Enter Consumer Desktop PC Market

NEW YORK — Toshiba Corp. has began will begin selling desktop computers to U.S. consumers, aiming to capitalize on its dominance in notebook computers and become the fifth-largest PC maker within a year.

With its new Infinia line, Toshiba's expansion is similar to Sony Corp.'s first foray into PCs — which should begin within a few weeks.

Like Sony, Toshiba will sell a limited variety of machines, three models, through a limited number of distributors, two national store chains, and focus on second- or third-time PC buyers.

And, like Sony, Toshiba has tried to design the computer to look like other home electronic items.

But Toshiba executive Tom Scott said that his company is different from Sony because it has been selling PCs, mostly notebook models, for 10 years.

"We are not only strong in consumer electronics but we've also got strength in computers," said Scott, who leads the computer division of Toshiba America Information Systems Inc.

"What this allows us to do is gain entry into the full PC market," Scott said. "Our goal is to be no. 5."

Toshiba is now the world's eighth-largest seller of PCs and the biggest seller of notebook models, with nearly 50 percent of that market. It sells a relatively small number of desktop PCs to businesses and consumers in Japan but hopes to expand soon. Next spring, Toshiba plans to offer desktop systems to businesses outside Japan.

Its new Infinia line stands out from other PCs because of volume and button controls that are built in to the monitors. On advanced models, the controls include a digital display and the buttons adapt according to the PC's function.

For instance, in TV mode, the buttons change function to those of a TV, such as changing channels or raising the volume. In radio mode, the screen shows the frequency and the buttons move up and down the dial.

In the future, Toshiba will let customers program those buttons to the functions of their computer software.

"A user could be in their finance program and one button could be an electronic funds transfer, another could be set for checking balances and another could look at charge cards," said Richard Zwetchkenbaum, analyst at International Data Corp. in Framingham, Massachusetts. "People are going to want to customize and personalize them."

Packard Bell Electronics and Compaq have similar button panels in their new PCs to start functions. They do not adapt when different functions are running, though.

Toshiba's three models — the 7130, 7160 and 7200 — differ chiefly on the speed of the Intel Corp. Pentium microprocessor they use, the amount of built-in main memory and size of hard drive. All have a 28,800 bits per second modem. Prices range from $1,699 to $2,799.

A 15-inch (38-cm) monitor, which has stereo speakers, is $449 and a 17-inch monitor, which has the speakers and a sub-woofer, is $749.

Toshiba will sell its machines initially through Compusa and best buy stores. Other retailers will be added later.

(AP)

Hungary Ponders What to Do With Its Unwanted Children



BUDAPEST, Hungary — A string of infanticides and critical news stories on adoptions by foreigners have turned the plight of unwanted children into a hot topic in Hungary.

With more than 22,000 orphaned or abandoned children in state custody, people are asking questions about regulations and procedures in adoptions and also about Hungarians' own willingness to adopt youngsters.

Economic distress and the loosening of social controls after the collapse of communism have exacerbated the problems of children without families — and of families with too many children.

Fifty-four infants have been reported killed in the past two years by parents who could not afford them.

In response, Agost Schoepf-Merei Maternity Hospital in Budapest put an incubator at its entrance where mothers can anonymously leave unwanted babies.

None has been left since the incubator was set up in May. But Dr. Gyoergy Garamvoelgyi, the hospital administrator, says it will stay as a "symbol for potential infant-killer mothers — that there is an alternative."

The surplus of unwanted children has drawn the attention of childless couples abroad who see Hungary as a potential source of adoptable children since neighboring Romania clamped down on adoptions by foreigners.

According to regulations, if a child cannot be placed in Hungary, he or she can be offered for adoption by foreigners through registered adoption agencies.

Only about 100 Hungarian children ended up with foreign parents last year, but the tabloid press has extensively played stories on often high-cost foreign adoptions and on allegations of baby trafficking.

The news that American-Hungarian adoption middlemen — New Jersey-based East-West Concepts Inc. — were exhibiting pictures of Hungarian children on the Internet rankled some feelings.

"I see that it is easier to advertise children on the Internet than to follow the traditional process of trying to find adoptive parents for them, but they are not animals to be put on show," said Karoly Gaspar, a department head of the Health and Welfare Ministry.

But the work of East-West Concepts also points to a problem many Hungarians do not like to talk about.

Janos Samu, the Hungarian-born head of East-West Concepts, said about 95 percent of the children listed by his agency are the offspring of gypsies, who are largely ostracized in Hungary.

The majority of adoptable children are gypsies, but few Hungarian parents want them.

"Hungarian adoptive parents mostly ask for non-gypsy children," said Gyula Kovacs, who runs a state orphanage.

A brochure for prospective adoptive parents from East-West Concepts suggests they would perform a good deed by adopting gypsies.

If they don't, "for years and years gypsy children stay in state orphanages," says the brochure. "They are victims of ethnic discrimination."

Another area that has drawn negative news coverage was a case in which pregnant Hungarian women were paid to travel to the United States to deliver their babies. The infants, U.S. citizens by birth, were then surrendered for adoption.

In that case, a Hungarian-born Canadian, Marianne Gati, was arrested in California on charges of tax fraud and harboring illegal aliens. She allegedly brokered the transactions for up to $80,000 a baby, charging higher prices for babies with light complexions than for darker ones.

Authorities in neighboring Austria are investigating reports of a similar operation in their country involving Hungarian mothers.

One of Hungary's best-known family planning specialists, geneticist Endre Czeizel, has been implicated in an adoption scandal. He faces charges of going outside legal channels and "changing the family status" of seven children by separating them from their natural parents and having them adopted by Americans.

Czeizel acknowledges he helped place babies with American couples, but denies any wrongdoing.

"We never received any money for referrals," Czeizel said.

He said his team took part in mediating the adoption of three children in Hungary by American couples and helped four pregnant women travel to the United States for subsequent adoptions there.

Czeizel said he acted out of concern for the welfare of the children and mothers, all of them poor.

"We surely have saved lives," he told the newspaper *Magyar Hirlap*, suggesting that otherwise some of the babies might have been killed by their mothers. (AP)

EUROPOL Needs Powers to Fight Child Sex Trade

BRUSSELS — The European Union's justice chief urged the 15-nation bloc's governments to urgently ratify a convention allowing the EUROPOL Police Agency to play a crucial role in fighting the child sex trade.

Justice Commissioner Anita Gradin said that until the convention making EUROPOL fully operational was ratified it could not carry out vital work pooling and analyzing lists of missing children sent by police agencies in the bloc.

"Everyone should go home and ratify the EUROPOL convention. If we want to get hold of these gangs who are stealing, abducting children then you need a EUROPOL that's effective," she told Reuters in an interview.

Gradin will float ideas on how to fight the child sex trade in Europe at an informal meeting of EU justice ministers in Dublin on September 26-27.

She said they would include urging more EU countries to follow the practice of trying in their home countries men who travel abroad to buy sex with children.

An Irish member of the European Parliament, Mary Banotti, has suggested the police agency set up a database to help search for missing children and young people under the age of 15.

Gradin said that until the convention is ratified EUROPOL could not run such a database.

Ratification of the convention was seriously delayed by a dispute between Britain and its EU partners over the jurisdiction of the European Court of Justice over the agency.

Even though EU leaders settled that problem at their last summit in Florence in June, not a single EU member had yet ratified the convention. (Reuter)

General Assembly Could Be "Lame Duck" UN Chief's Last

UNITED NATIONS — UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali from Tuesday will attend the General Assembly's 51st session, which the United States vows will be his last.



BOUTROS-GHALI

Since June, when Washington announced six months before the end of the 73-year-old Egyptian's current mandate that it would block him from a second term, U.S. Ambassador Madeleine Albright has repeated that the U.S. decision is "irrevocable".

But Boutros-Ghali is just as firm in his intention to seek a second five-year term, with the backing of other members of the 15-member Security Council which casts the decisive vote in choosing the UN chief.

The resulting deadlock, says former UN Undersecretary Sir Brian Urquhart, has been "very bad for the institution of secretary-general, who is supposed to be an independent, strong-minded person, and very bad for the United Nations."

Boutros-Ghali is "a lame duck, without them having any idea about who they're going to appoint".

The Americans say that a new reform-minded secretary-general is needed to lead the world body into the 21st century, and like to remind the UN chief that he promised when elected that he would not seek a second term.

Boutros-Ghali has his detractors, who accuse him of being a poor administrator and an arrogant interlocutor. On Friday he was criticized by UN staff representatives for being "isolated".

Urquhart however says it is unfair to challenge his reform record, and believes that U.S. President Bill Clinton's administration decided to block Boutros-Ghali as an election ploy to divert criticism from the Republicans who have been beating an anti-UN drum for months.

But Washington is also making it clear to Boutros-Ghali's aides — most recently this week at a lunch between U.S. Deputy Permanent Representative Edward Gnehm and Boutros-Ghali's Chief of Staff Jean-Claude Aime — that the decision will not change after the November elections.

The tough U.S. position, which was also transmitted to Latin American leaders during a tour by Albright earlier this month, appears to diminish the chances of a compromise solution of a two-year term for Boutros-Ghali.

So far, his supporters on the council, including China, Egypt, Russia and France, have blocked any discussion of the procedure for the UN chief's election.

But while agreeing to put the issue on the back burner during the ministerial weeks of the General Assembly which run until October 11, Albright is expected to insist on setting the process in motion after that.

Western diplomats noted that she could seize on the fact that two candidates have now formally decided to challenge Boutros-Ghali, Organization of the Islamic Conference Secretary-General Hamid Algabid of Niger, and French-born former UN Assistant Secretary-General Robert Muller.

Neither candidacy is taken seriously here, however.

African states, which officially support Boutros-Ghali, point to UN tradition to demand that the next secretary-general should be an African — the Egyptian was elected as that continent's representative.

If Boutros-Ghali's candidacy is vetoed, and the search for an African statesman falters, the choice could fall on UN insider Kofi Annan of Ghana, currently UN undersecretary-general responsible for peacekeeping.

One women's pressure group, equality now, is meanwhile campaigning for a woman to succeed Boutros-Ghali and has mentioned the names of six candidates on the ground that gender could overcome geography in the race.

They are Norwegian Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland, South African parliamentary speaker Frene Ginwala, UN High Commissioner for Refugees Sadako Ogata of Japan, International Rwanda Tribunal Judge Navanethem Pillay of South Africa, Irish President Mary Robinson and Philippines Senate President Leticia Shahani.

The task is further complicated as the successful contender must speak French, to avoid a Security Council veto from Paris.

Boutros-Ghali has refused direct comment on his candidacy in recent weeks, saying that his future "is in the hands of the member states."

He is not scheduled to speak on September 24 when the president of the country which has vowed to unseat him, Bill Clinton, addresses the General Assembly. (AP)

Tens of Thousands Expected to Cross Former Frontlines to Vote

TUZLA, Bosnia-Herzegovina — Hundreds of Muslim refugees were to travel to Serb-held areas from here Saturday to cast their votes in Bosnia's landmark elections just a stone's throw away from mass graves thought to contain their loved ones.

As polling stations opened in this northern industrial city at 7:00 am (0500 GMT), fewer than 10 voters had turned up at the central bus station in Tuzla to vote in Serb-held areas.

Dozens of special buses have been laid on to take voters into Serb-held territory using special routes set up by the NATO-led Peace Implementation Force (IFOR).

Tens of thousands of refugees are expected to cross Bosnia's former frontlines to vote in areas which many have not visited since they fled or were expelled during Bosnia's almost four year war.

However on Friday, it emerged that Muslim refugees would be taken to vote in polling stations near mass grave sites where the bodies of men from Srebrenica are believed buried, a move some voters slammed as insensitive.

A number of women from Srebrenica, now living in Tuzla, said that they would not go back to vote, despite having registered to do so.

They said they had lodged a protest with the Organization for Security and Cooperation for Europe (OSCE), which is running the polls, that they were expected to vote in Podravnje, a village 10 kilometers (six miles) from Srebrenica, which they described as "Serb."

At least 3,000 men of draft age were massacred in July 1995 when the so-called UN safe area fell to Serb forces, although the Bosnian government says 8,000 Srebrenica men remain unaccounted for.

The local Transport Ministry office here said refugees from the eastern Bosnian town of Bratunac would be taken to vote in Konjevic Polje, close to the Nova Kasaba gravesite where 33 bodies were exhumed.

Refugees from Zvornik would be taken to Grbavci, a small village near the Lazete gravesite where at least 58 bodies were found.

"The location of the polling stations is decided by the local election commissions in coordination with the OSCE," an official said.

Dervisa Dermanovic, 50, from Srebrenica, at the bus station in Tuzla said: "I came here but there's no one here, no one from Srebrenica. I'm going no matter where I vote."

Zuhra Sehradbegovic, from Bratunac, 49, smartly dressed, said: "I'm afraid a lot of people won't show up because they have to vote in Konjevic Polje. It's humiliating. We're going to the place where the massacre was committed.

"I filled in the form because we were supposed to see Bratunac and I wanted to visit my town. But if I don't go I lose my right to vote.

"It's more humiliating than when they expelled us from our homes.

Sehradbegovic argued with one of the bus drivers to try and get him to leave for the polling station, but he said he had recieved orders from Sarajevo to wait for more people.

IFOR spokesman Jeff Fitzgibbons told journalists that the buses would be inspected when they crossed from the Muslim-Croat Federation to the Republika Srpska, the two entities which make up post-war Bosnia.

The OSCE in Sarajevo said that it could not comment on individual polling stations.

In Tuzla, Fitzgibbons said vehicles carrying voters into former enemy areas would be checked: "The buses will be inspected for two issues — the presence of weapons and the presence of signs or banners that might be inflammatory."

Refugees will be voting in separate polling booths, usually on the outskirts of major towns.

Fitzgibbons said IFOR expected more people to travel to the Serb-held northern towns of Brcko and Doboj than to the eastern town of Srebrenica. (AFP)



President Deplores U.S. ... to Sabotage His ...

Perry Heads for Britain After Disappointing Mideast Tour